pzine

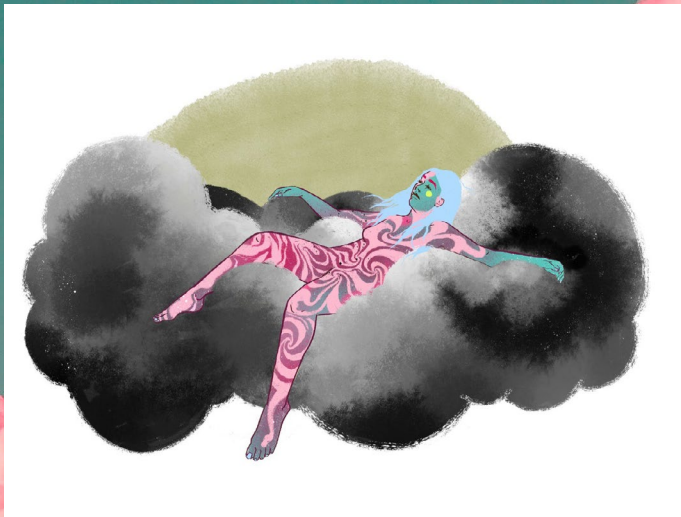
ISSUE 13: VOL1

DREAMS

ISSUE 13: DREAMS VOLUME 1

"For those turning dreams into **reality**."

CHILLIN - NAZ NAHIDI



COVER

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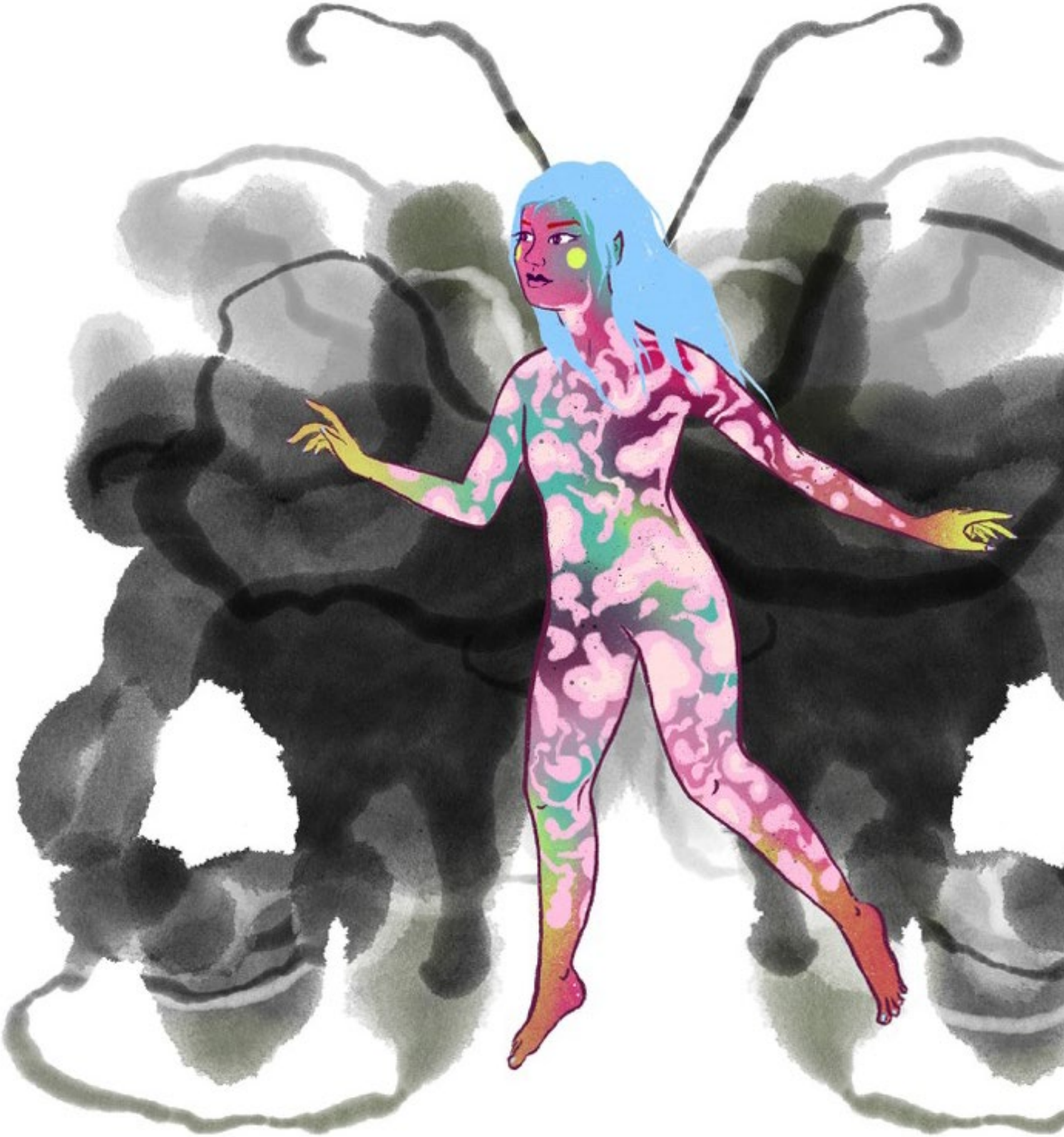
DEAR READE



DREAM FAERIE I NAZ NAHIDI I TORONTO, CANADA I **@NZNHIDI** I **NAZNAHIDI.COM**

Dear Reader,

We opened our call for submissions for DREAMS on February 16th, and since then, **it seems the world as we know it has changed.** From the ongoing global pandemic of COVID-19 to the rising civil revolution surrounding racial violence and inequality, we claim 2020 is the worst year yet.

But in a sense, **nothing has changed.** For the real pandemics of our society are the racism, homophobia, transphobia, sexism, and ableism which have plagued us for centuries. In a sense, nothing ever changed. For if it had, we would no longer spread hate like a virus, ignore the disease of white supremacy, and infect ourselves with willful ignorance.

In a time where conversations of race, equality, and justice are at the forefront, we must do everything in our power to keep them there. We cannot return to 'normal.'

'Normal' was segregation.
'Normal' was genocide.
'Normal' was inequality and injustice.
'Normal' never accounted for the dignity of

Black lives. Indigenous lives. Trans lives.

'Normal' should have never been normal in the first place.

I attended a Black Lives Matter protest a month ago, where a speaker redefined Martin Luther King's "dream" as a goal – something we should be actively striving for. We shouldn't close our eyes to injustices by day, and we shouldn't see justice only when we close our eyes at night. It is not enough for us to hope or wish for a better world one day. We are tired of dreaming. We must act, and we must act now.

To the artists, **we refuse to stand for hate or exclusion.** We built this very magazine on principles of inclusivity and accessibility, but we understand that we must also actively practice anti-racism and educate ourselves in order to fully live out our mission. We want to do the work. We will do the work. **We won't just dream of a better world.**

We will make one.

We promise to join you on this adventure.

Much love,
Rebecca McLaren xoxo

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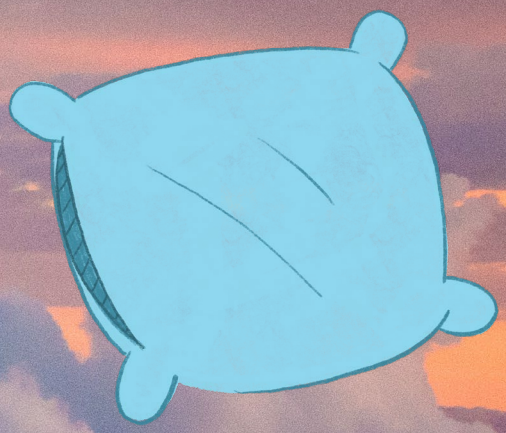

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29:16-36:03 **PHOTOGRAPHY**
Daisy Riley, @weak_wrists_r_us

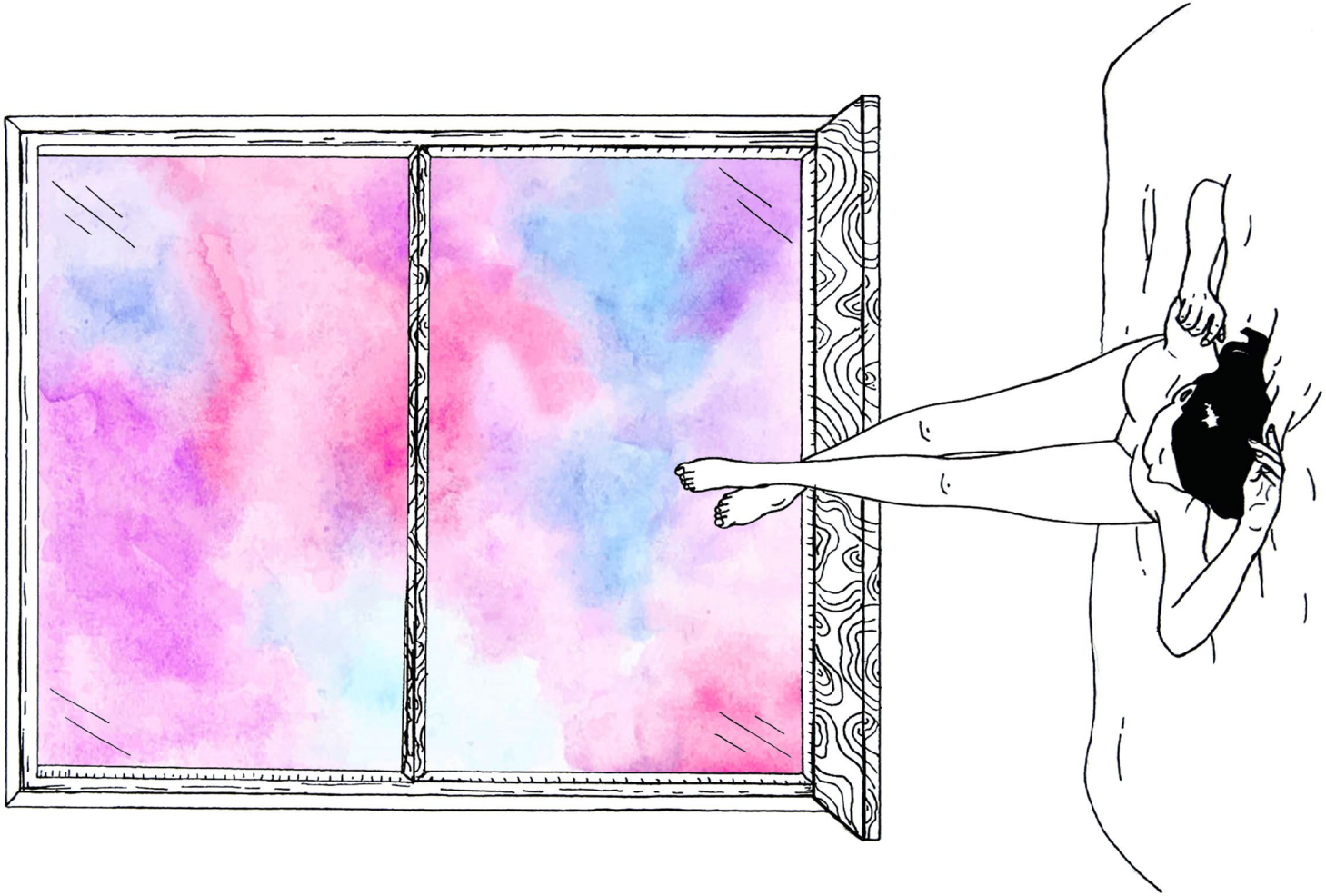
CHECK OUT OUR NEW **PODCAST**!

Open Window

I often find myself daydreaming about daydreams,
of perfect moments regardless
of everything surrounding. It's an innocence
only found in frogs jumping in ponds,
squirrels climbing oaks and birches, and birds
unfolding their wings soaring up until they
are but dots in an upside-down ocean. Clouds

of lust-wind stroking skin with a cool touch;
gentle spring night, orange decaying sun setting
over the houses and hills and fields and
everything else that does not matter.

Can you smell a daydream? What does
it sound like? A melancholy breeze
carrying the bird's chirrups through my open window
and saying how gorgeous it all is. We have
everything we need here, together; the mountains
echo conversations onto others as I drift away
to dream another daydream of a perfect night,
holding your tears in mine.



seeds of love

i breathe
in
and
out
streams of air flow out of my body
roots burrow their membranous extensions into every crevice of my lungs

they travel through my heart
pushing aside the tubing of my veins

and when i try to take another breath
i can feel their strands
wrapped around every part of me
their roots tightening and compressing within me
while i struggle against each and every one

out of desperation i find a silver scalpel blade
and with deep focus i make an incision,
tracing a perfect rectangle over my adam's apple

my fingers pushing aside veins and navigating trails of bone until i source the deepest
root — dark, rotten, and tangled
my sticky fingers pull and tug until coils of earthy strands lay upon my lap

but my lungs were freed
&
i could breathe
what a torturous yet liberating feat!

slow and salty
lukewarm and heavy
tears drip everywhere

Rage 1 - yobabyem.com
Model - @cadenceplenge

Rage 2 - yobabyem.com
Model - @cadenceplenge

my heart so heavily soaked
in its own existence
that if you only pressed a finger into its warm vibrations
vibrant reds would ooze
& if you touched for a little too long
your hands too would stain
to the colour of beets

and in my moment of vulnerability
you held me down & took it from me

resting it upon your old cherry board
you carefully sharpened your knife
the blade so thin, gleaming despite the dimness
as always, most of the light in your kitchen had succumbed to the night

beginning from the left side of my chamber
with your grimy red hands
you sliced slowly and with precision

quietly
as blood creeps into the cracks of the board expanding like my veins in the seams

quietly
as the ground of your kitchen floods with puddles
as a river of red sways down your ankles
& runs down your elbows until drips splatter around you

until you could admire your job so very well done:
my heart laid before you
thinly sliced in perfect portions
since after all — dividing pieces evenly
improves the quality of how a meal is cooked

and i'd never seen you savour anything more - *linkedin.com/in/ashleyzpersaud*

Wrapped in a Warp

And I am blessed,
Always to be kept,
  In the strength of silk;

The fragility of ardor
Show me through the story of wonders,
  past the fountain of feminine
  towards the divine

fever dream(s)

Acr

I exhaust
With hop
  And pra
While rou

oss a Space

time to ensnare your view
es of grazing tested skin
acticed breast
nd 'R's rouse ravenous palms

Dreamless Affair

The stars are in love with me
I can't sleep anymore
They need me to see them
We are having an affair
While everybody sleeps
I watch them
And they watch me
Who needs to count sheep with a sky full of stars?
I drive around the city at 2am
While everybody snores
I laugh with them
And they laugh with me
Who needs to rest with a sky full of stars?
Sleep never wanted me anyway
The stars fell in love with me

DREAMLESS AFFAIR I DINA BAXEVANAKIS I TORONTO, CANADA I **@DINADRAWS36**

DINA-BAXEVANAKIS.COM

WAKE UP I LAYAN DAJANI I SAUDI ARABIA I **@IN_AN_ALTERNATE_UNIVERSE_**

Too often, the only escape is sleep.

– Charles Bukowski

Not that long ago, I would lie all day in bed. Neither my body or mind had enough strength to pull me up, even for basic chores. The emotional charge I kept for myself was so heavy, it always ended up pulling me back to bed. It became my safe place. I would always hope for the night to come quickly so I could travel to a different universe within my dreams. Before I could notice, I was not waiting for night to come anymore. The bell rang, and I knew that as soon I got home I would tangle my body between the sheets, shutting down my noisy mind. The struggle was silent, hard to explain and often confused with laziness. They would think I did not want to move, to work or even explore the sweet side of life. I wanted it. I wanted it more than anything. I wanted to achieve my goals, to make my parents proud and my friends laugh. I wanted to hold others, but the truth was, I could not even hold myself.

Instead I dreamed. I dreamed to replace the emptiness, to get rid of the agony, even if it was just for a couple of hours. I spent my life asleep, and when I opened my eyes, the burden of basic responsibility made me crawl back to my nest. Study for the exam. Respond to the emails. Read the books. Complete the task. Study for another exam. Complete the other task. My to dos were piling up into an infinite list of duties, reminding me I was alive and needed to meet my responsibilities, no matter if I felt dead. I felt I was only receiving the bitter part of life, a sacrifice for nothing. So, I unconsciously rebelled by ignoring my obligations, since I could not enjoy anything.

I escaped my reality through sleep. It was a game of luck: sometimes the dream was completely random and nonsense, sometimes I met those who I idolized, when in real life they lived in the other side of the world. Other times, the nightmares were so intense I was scared of falling asleep again. Of course, I always wished for the best to meet me in my dreams. I wanted to disappear into another world, run away from the dull routine I trapped myself in, from the four white walls locking me up. The only time I felt alive, was when I closed my eyes. Only then, I could understand the cliché *make your dreams come true*. It meant being so happy in your life you do not need to escape.

Even if I could not remember it, even if I was embraced in my fake and short disappearance, I settled for any dream that made me forget my own existence.

BECOMING (2018) I MIA PADEN I NEW YORK CITY I **@MIAMAKESMOVIES**

VIMEO.COM/MIAPADEN

the dreaming tree

the seed I planted
under the dreaming tree
is growing a world of its own
as the gardener
I am its luscious lucid lover
the first swimmer
diving into the sweet splash of dream milk
a creamy space to swirl
a sandbox for your mind
to build tall castles
on the shore
on the banks
on the roots
on your heart
listen to the sugar breeze
as we walk
down the spinning path
of the forest of dreams

DREAMS AND WISHES

I dreamt about you last night
tripping in eyelid flutters,
drifting in bizarre slumbers
entranced by illusions of you.
If only our dreams were true.
Wishes, dreams, at night with you.
Dreaming wishes to come true.
Just so that I can see you.
I dreamt about you last night
in my woozy sleeping arms held
you tight. In reverie we
left heartache behind to live.
If only our dreams were true.
Wishes, dreams, at night with you.
Dreaming wishes to come true.
Just so that I can see you.
I dreamt about you last night.
Imaginary laughter,
chimerical and hazy
fantasies enchanting us.
If only our dreams were true.
Wishes, dreams, at night with you.
Dreaming wishes to come true.
Just so that I can see you.
I dreamt about you last night,
told you everything will be
alright. Moments together
we will treasure forever.
If only our dreams were true.
Wishes, dreams, at night with you.
Dreaming wishes to come true.
Just so that I can see you.
I dreamt about you last night,
and awoke in a gloomy dawn.
Wonder if you dreamt of me
Knowing you do. You love me.
If only our dreams were true.
Wishes, dreams, at night with you.
Dreaming wishes to come true.
Just so that I can see you.
I dreamt about you last night
eternally keeping you in
my sight. Our eyes will meet one
day, embracing our faces love.
If only our dreams were true.
Wishes, dreams, at night with you.
Dreaming wishes to come true.
Just so that I can see you.
Wishing to see you,
dreaming of you.
Loving you forever.

GET OUT OF MY HEAD | ALEXANDRA MOODY | ATLANTA, GEORGIA | **@ALEXANDRAMOODYY**

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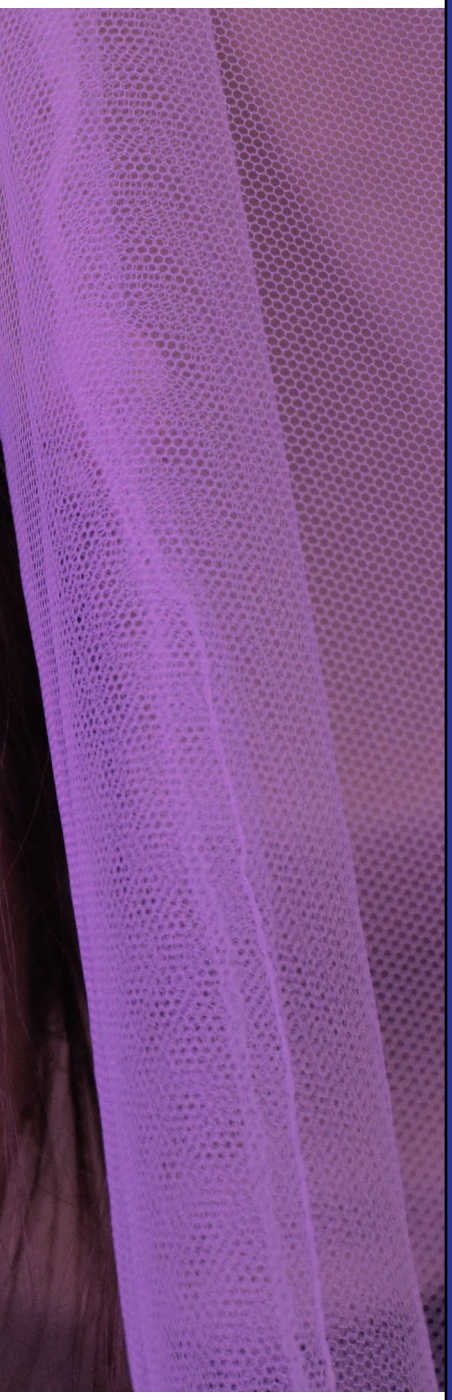
VISIONS of EU



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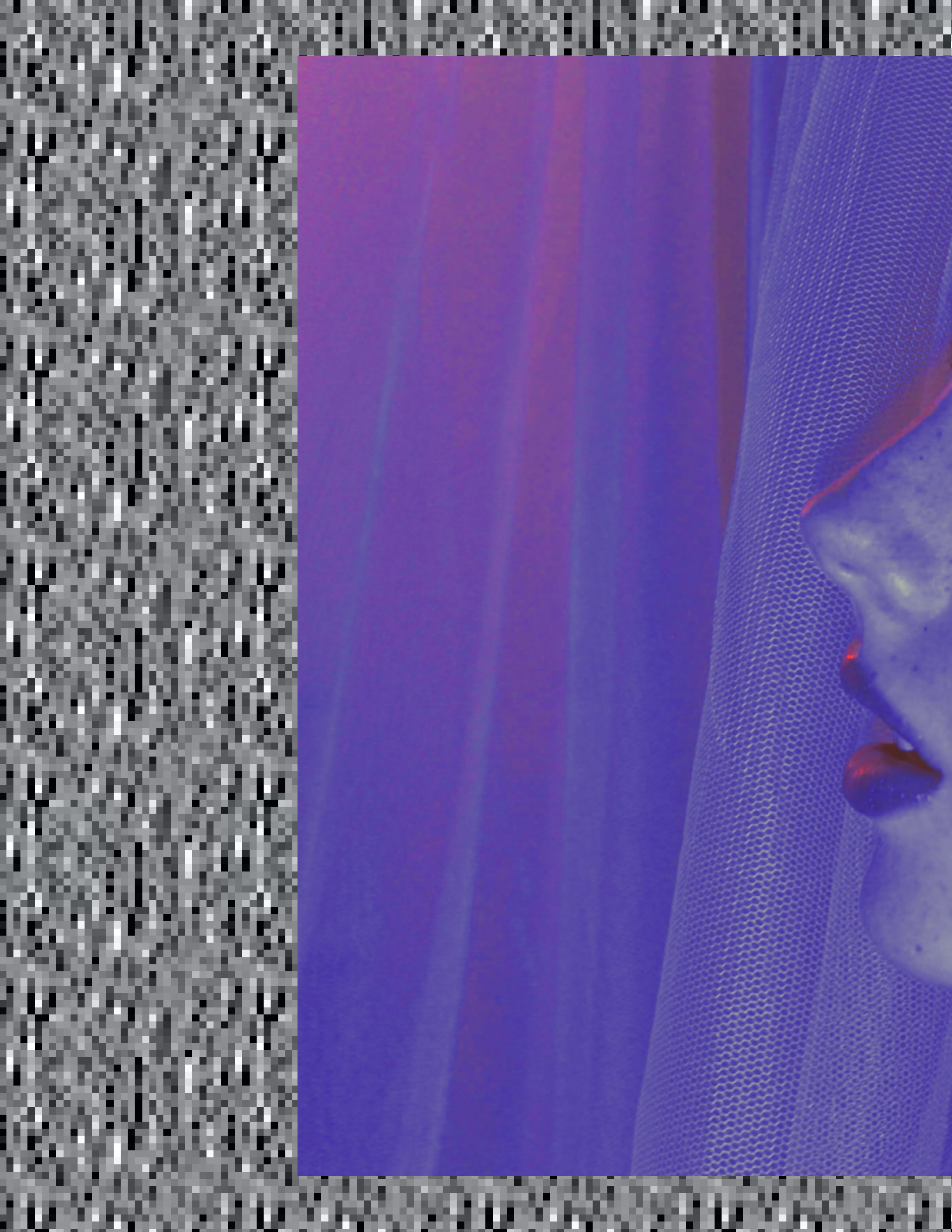
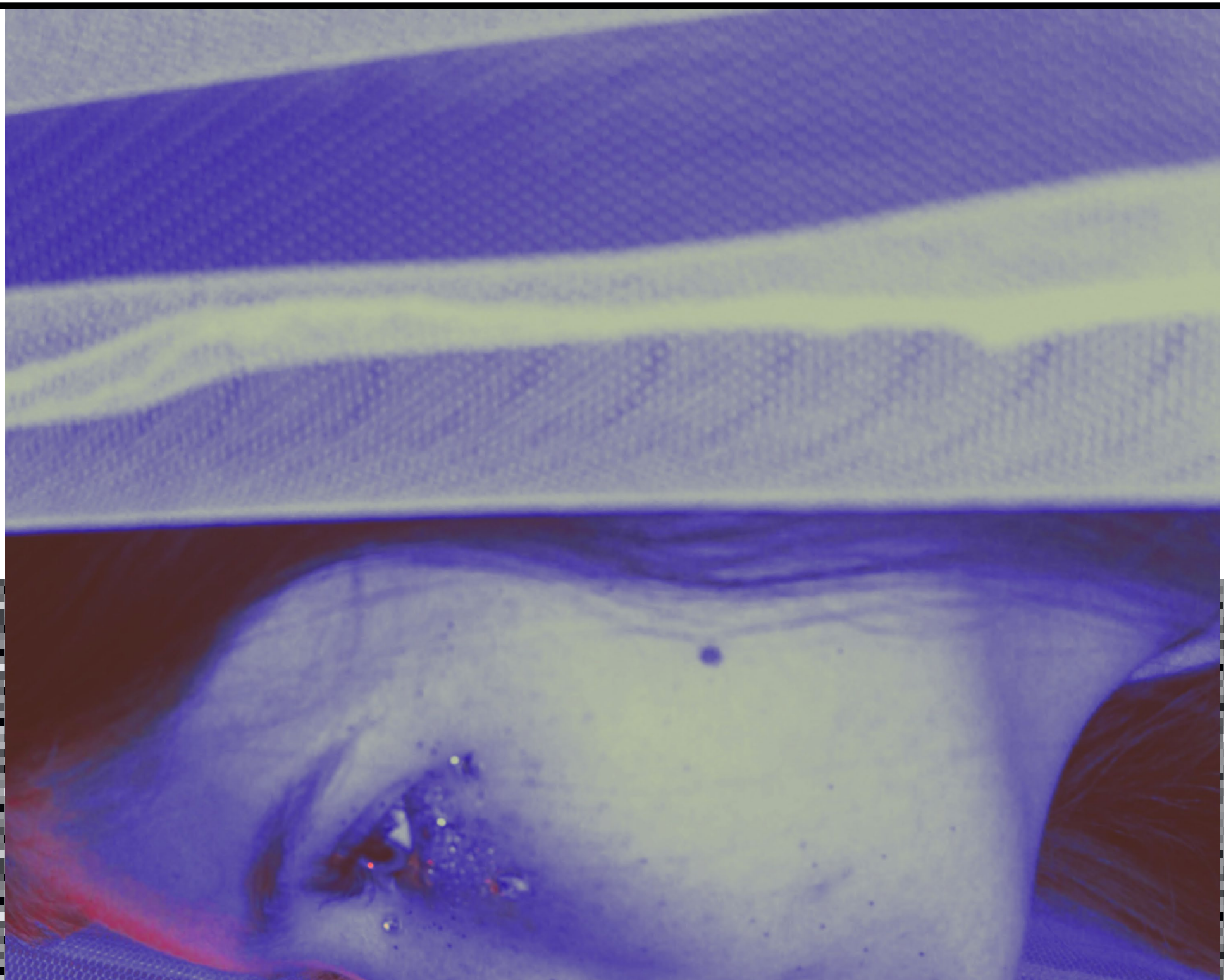




FANTASTICAL & MUNDANE: CONSIDERING THE WAY I DREAM

Writing by Sophia Moore

I used to dream of the fantastical. Trips to lands unknown to me on a map and life in sky-rises and the luxe of the rich and famous. There was no limit on who I could be in my dreams, there was no platform off of which I had to base my goals. When I went to sleep, the world was under me. I was the creator of my reality, I was the star of my own show. There was nothing I thought to be impossible.

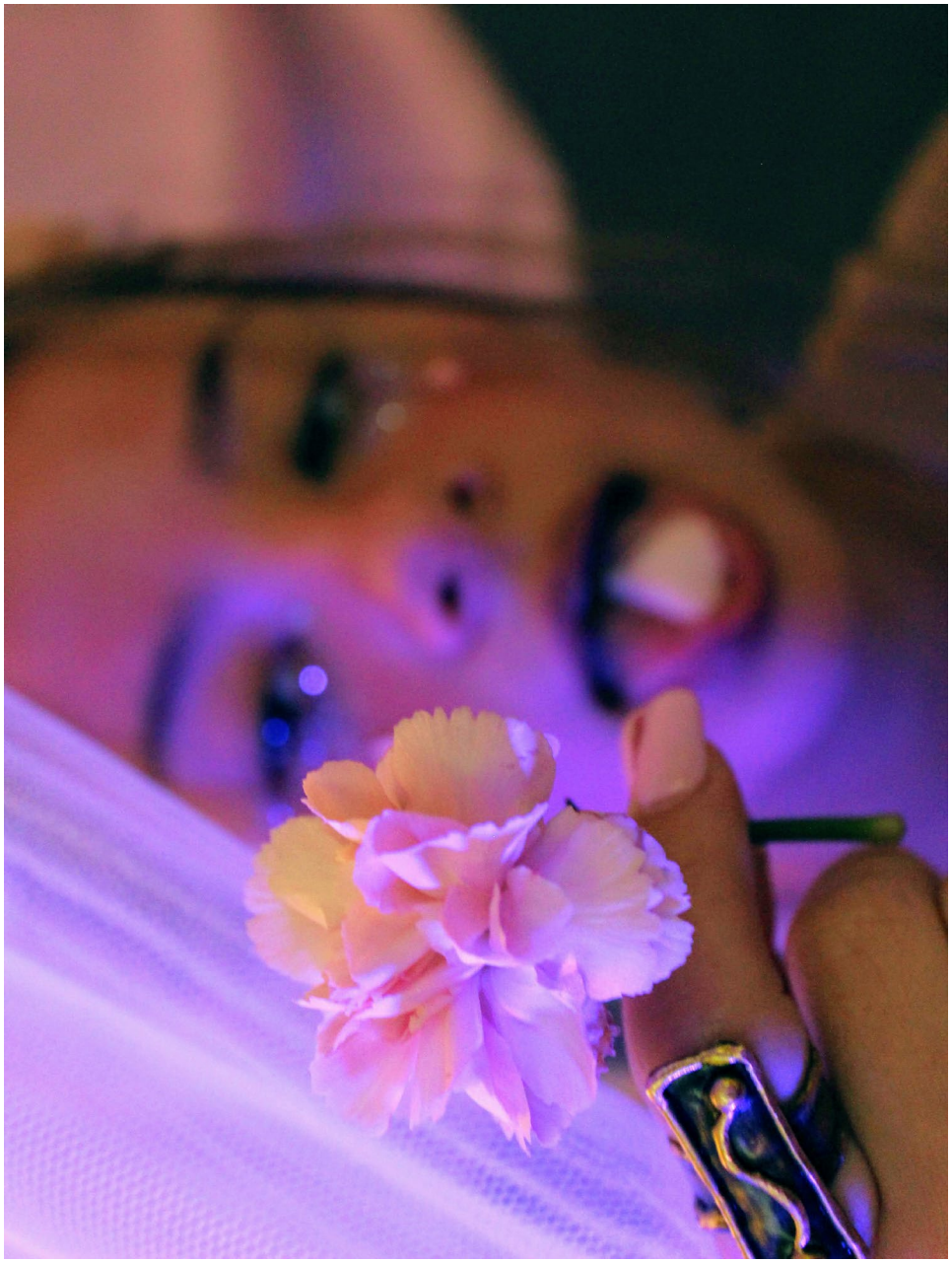
I don't dream as much anymore. Perhaps it's because when I go to sleep now, I'm too tired to dream. My head is too full of worries and to-do lists, the basis of the monotony of my life. In a lot of ways, all I want my subconscious to do is dream, and in every way, it falls short. If not the darkness of life behind my eyelids, then decompression of the day and the one to come are the things that occupy my sleeping mind.

On the rare occasion that I do dream, it's not fantastical, in any regard. I dream of people, often ones I know. My dreams have become a running list of tasks I have to do or individuals I need to talk to, a literal, built-in reminder system when my mind goes offline. I can no longer escape the bustle of my daily life. The place in my mind that used to serve as an easy escape from reality is now more similar to it than not.

As I've grown up and as my priorities have changed, so have my dreams. I manifest more fantastically in real life now; I dream more mundanely in the subconscious. In reality, I'm a full-time pursuer of what I want. I set my sights high and am unafraid to put the work in to reach the bars I set. In many regards, I dream with more fervor in real life than I ever did while sleeping, and yet, everything that I accomplish in my day-to-day life is nothing when compared to the color and life that used to exude from my quieted mind.

I suppose I can't complain. I love where I'm at in my life. I am so proud and grateful for all that I've worked for and all that I've accomplished. What I'm trying to get at, however, is that I didn't realize the transition between dreaming fantastically subconsciously to dreaming fantastically consciously, and the trade-off that comes with said transition. Daring to dream realistically comes with late nights and long hours: poison to the dreamscape. Had I known everything that was at stake when I ventured to put my younger dreams on the shelf, I might not have dived in so far, so fast.

"to be complete
honest, all i wa
dream vividly a
more."



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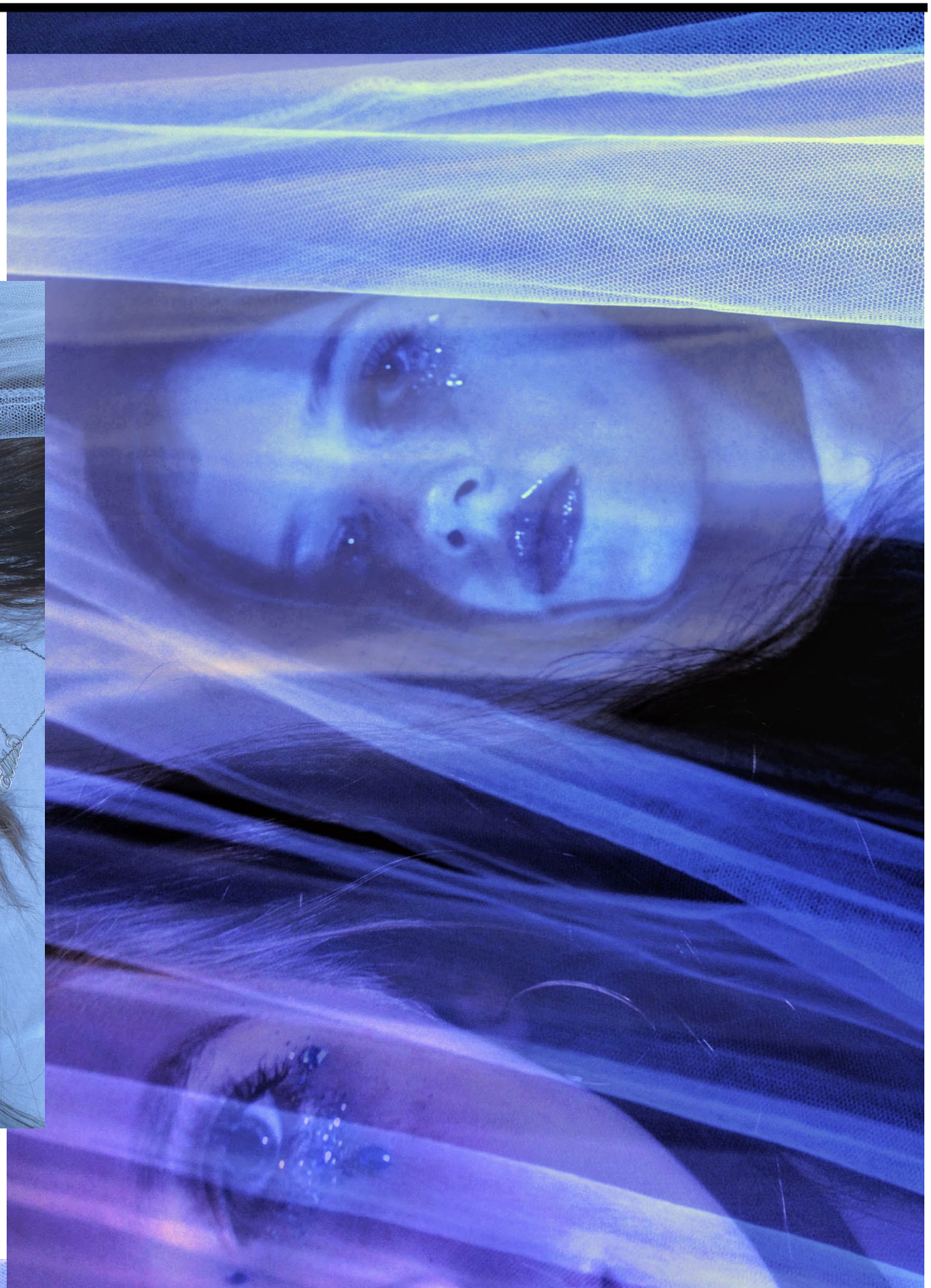
To be completely honest, all I want is to dream vividly once more. I don't want to completely change my lifestyle to allow myself to dream more, that seems counterintuitive to me. All I want is to feel the warmth and ease that accompanied dreaming of meeting princesses and playing in endless summertimes. Or to experience once more the delight of envisioning a perfectly picturesque beach and all my friends there to see it. Or to feel the rush of a never-ending conveyor belt of sherbet or the head-spinning rush of rollercoasters beyond probable engineering.

There was an aspect to improbable dreaming that I took for granted. There was an unspeakable amazement to the ability to develop full-length story plots in my sleeping mind, and I wish, only if for a night, to return to the splendor and bliss brought on by childhood imagination. Perhaps it's a jaded request, something desired by anyone older than an age of ignorance, but it's a request I hold dear regardless. To dream is to let oneself be, no inhibitions to the confines of society and the world. To dream is to live unabashedly, with an unknowing freedom to how lucky you are.

I know that in this world, in the age I am now, to dream as big and beautifully in my subconscious as I once did is an improbable wish. But maybe, in wishing for it at all, I return once more to the fantastical sense of dreaming that is so sought after. In being foolish enough to dream of something long past, I reconnect to the same naivety of my younger years. Full circle.

MODELS **@ELLA.WILLIS_ @LORELEIU**



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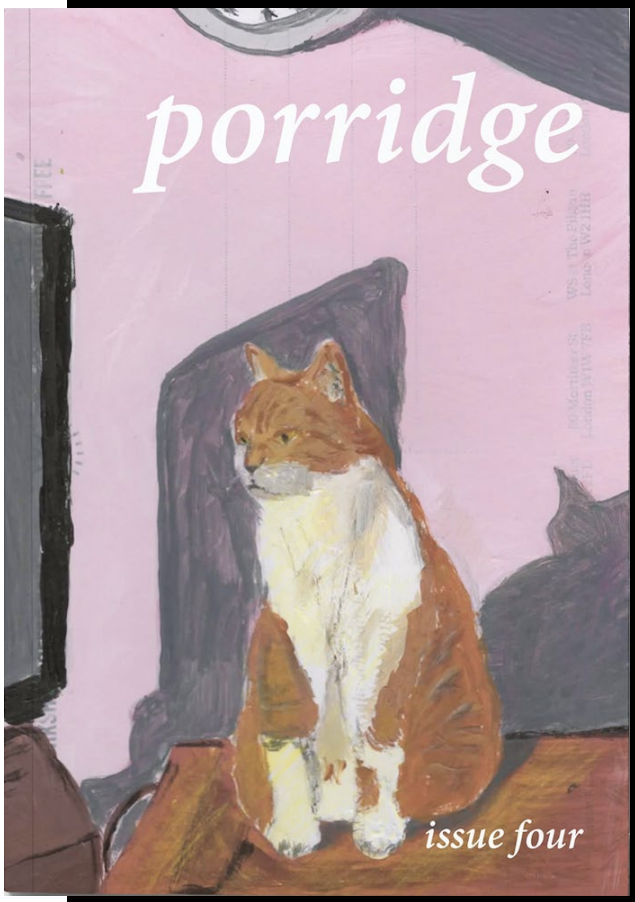

PORRIDGE

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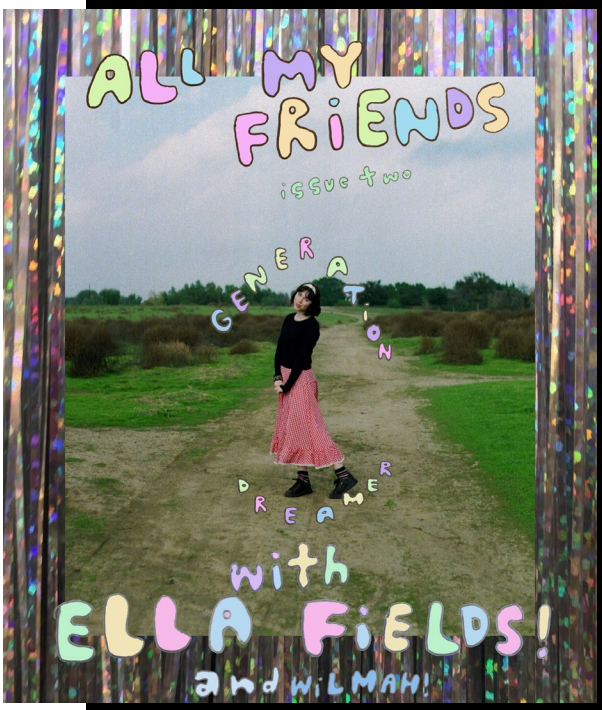
Porridge provides an inclusive space for the exchange of interdisciplinary, thought-provoking work through its online and print magazines. We support new and emerging writers from all around the world and publish a diverse range of creative non-fiction, poetry, COMFORT FOODS, photography, and much more.

THE LUNA COLLECTIVE

@lunacollectivemag

thelunacollectivemag.com

The Luna Collective is a platform for the creative community spotlighting a variety of young artists. Featuring film photography only, we create an online + print magazine to highlight talented individuals as well as the work of our readers. We also feature creatives + their work on our website & Instagram.



ALL MY FRIENDS ZINE

@allmyfriendszine

allmyfriendszine.com

All My Friends Zine is a visual art and writing magazine based in Los Angeles. They are focused on creating a community in which young creatives are able to share their work with others while spreading love and encouragement!

UNPUBLISHED MAGAZINE

@unpublishedzine

unpublishedzine.com

The founder, Rebecca Bloch, created Unpublished Magazine with the intention of allowing her younger self to have the platform she wished she had while she was in high school. She wishes she had a platform like Unpublished where she could've shared her work and gotten her name out there as a young artist. The name "Unpublished" comes from the idea that everyone's work is unpublished before they get their work out. With a large majority of our creators being younger, getting their work on Unpublished is essentially the first publication that their work is being shown on. Unpublished strives to promote young artists looking to share their work within the magazine community.

LUCKY (ARCHIVES)

@luckyarchives

luckyarchives.com

lucky is a digital and print publication that was established to further encapsulate what it means to be a creative by highlighting pieces of music, art, photography, poetry, film, fashion and culture curated by creatives.

MEZZAZINE

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mezzazine is a small online platform publishing magazines for your free viewing pleasure! it's singlehandedly run right now, but we have a team of resident creators and writers all over the world! we strive to reach everyone who has ever felt like a lesser artist from rejection of other independent magazines. we do this by publishing everyone's work in each issue!

SURJ MAGAZINE

@surjmagazine

surjmagazine.com

surj is an online and print magazine created by 17-year-old zyva sheikh to highlight those who have fought against societal norms and created their own wave -- those who are fearless in their pursuit and do not allow social barriers to hold them back. we feature unique creators and activists who have used their work to make a difference.

THE KHIDR COLLECTIVE ZINE

@khidrcollective

khidrcollective.co.uk

The Khidr Collective Zine is an annual print publication produced by Khidr Collective, a multidisciplinary arts collective based in the U.K. The Zine is a means to amplify voices that have been typically spoken over in mainstream media. We feature fiction, non-fiction, poetry, art, photography, comics and more by artists and writers from Muslim and other marginalised backgrounds. We hope that the magazine serves as a way of documenting resistance but also the love, joy and beautiful histories of our faith and communities.

BLISTERS ZI

@blisterszine

blistersmagazine.s

BLISTERS is an independ
publication by gen-z for
seeks to provide a space
feelings to prosper, for a
artists to call home, for a
grow.

KINDA COOL MAGAZINE

@kindacoolmag

kindacoolmagazin

KCM started with a pure
and popular culture. We
positive environment th
abilities of both perform
hard workers behind the
industry. We are challen
by removing all boundar
age, gender, and backgr
stands for passion, not s

INE

squarespace.com

lently ran
gen-z. it
e for all
all adolescent
all roots to

.

ne.com

e love for music
strive to create a
at showcases the
ning artists and
e scenes of the
ging the dynamic
ries set by genre,
round - KCM
standards.

DEAR DAMSELS

@deardamsels

deardamsels.com

Dear Damsels is a publishing platform sharing the words and stories of women. With bimonthly themes and regular print publications, there are always opportunities for women to have their voices heard, stories told and receive a rallying response back.

ASHAMED MAGAZINE

@ashamedmagazine

ashamedmagazine.co.uk

For the loud, the proud of the marginalised. Ashamed Magazine is a digital and print feminist publication that priorities the work of women, non-binary & LGBTQIA+ PoC only. .

OVERACHIEVER MAGAZINE

@overachievermagazine

overachievermagazine.com

Overachiever Magazine is a digital platform for Asian women from all over Asia, living all over the world. Our name is poking fun at the stereotype that all Asians are overachievers, especially Asian women. It's also in recognition of all the Asian women who have had no choice but to be overachievers: managing societal expectations, family obligations, and educational opportunities, all while fighting the patriarchy. Through biweekly issues which cover topics such as colorism, the model minority myth, internalized misogyny, and include columns on beauty, empowerment, and media, we aim to educate and empower all Asian women.

UNIQUELY ALIGNED

@uniquelyaligned

uniquelyaligned.com

Uniquely Aligned is an independent online and in-print magazine dedicated to youth and individuality, founded by Vivian Chambers, Savanna Chada, and Katherine DeBerry. Designed to embrace every person's uniqueness while also embodying love in our alignment as humans, it has become a giant creative platform for all different kinds of people and all different kinds of ideas. We want this to be a place for everyone. We are on a mission. To show the world that we have creativity to share and a voice to be spoken. To make mistakes and to learn. To be kids and to be good. To talk, to cry. To laugh, to feel. To give. To love, to run, to be loved. Simply put, to live.

AUTUMN I ALLY GODSIL I MONTCLAIR, USA I @ALLYGODSIL I ALICIAGODSIL.WEEBLY.COM

Autumn

If fall light breaks
Upon eyelids caked with humidity
Then I will feel whole again

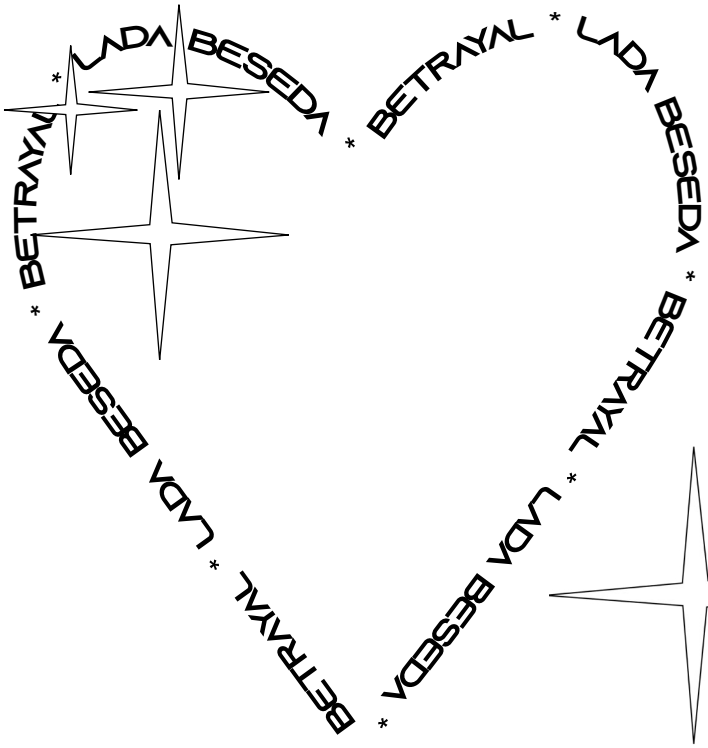
Every day I have dreamed of you
Your tall towers, your marble skies

I want to watch sunlight wither
Upon barren gardens of nostalgia
I want to feel Winter's caress upon my cheeks

This is the first time I have loved her:
Those bright cold mornings
Where I suck the sweet marrow of life

I will love her forever
I will never go back
To grit between baked soles of my feet
The sun painted me orange

But all is different now
I see leaves of all colors fall and die
The only orange I know is the
Fragmented street lamps that climb up my bedroom window
At night

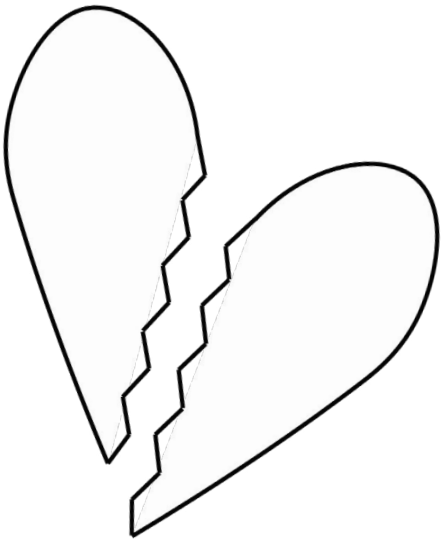


Lada Beseda is originally from the Ukraine. Her family wanted her to go to school to become a doctor, but Lada had dreams of becoming a musician. She left home at 16 years old and sustained herself with three jobs. She would sing on the streets and in bars. Lada came to the USA when she was 19 years old - initially living in California to work and better learn the music industry. Eventually, Lada settled in Miami, Florida. Prior to linking up with M.E.I. Recordings, Lada was ghostwriting and producing songs for various artists. Lada Beseda's untitled project is set to be released later this year. It will demonstrate her ver ty: Pop, R&B, Hip-Hop/Rap, sounds will be heard throu ut.

Lada Beseda kicked off the month of April with a heartfelt single titled, "Betra "Betrayal" discusses heartbreak and is inspired by a true story: "One of my fan a story about how his girlfriend cheated on him. The story was very touching, so up making a song based off of the situation."
With her unique sound and genre-bending production, the songstress delivers a soulful song that fans can really enjoy. "Betrayal" balances the somber topic with an uplifting beat. Lada produced the beat: "I feel that there aren't many female producers, so I want to showcase my production skills to inspire others."

"I feel that there aren't many female producers, so I want to showcase my production skills to inspire others"

Lada Beseda recently released two singles, "Girl Till Morning Light" and "Stormy Ocean." She is currently working on a project to be released later this year with many of the songs to be accompanied by visuals showcasing Lada's directing chops. Lada is being managed by M.E.I. Recordings. Although plans for shows have been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic, Lada Beseda is dedicated to her fans and will continue to give fans something to look forward to.



STREAM "BETRAYAL" NOW ON:

twitter.com/TheAnimeDreamer

The pose was inspired from SenshiStock (same thing I did for my other pieces in issue 4 & 6); I thought about how when I'm sleeping, I've went through many dimensions like I'm traveling through all of my alternate universes.

I awoke today from this wonderful dream.

We were floating in space,

defying gravity,

arms interlocked,

souls merging into one.

But it was only a dream.

You are nothing but a distant memory now—

a picture engulfed in my brain.

And so I only look forward to sleeping,

for that's the only way I can feel your spirit.

But then I wake up.

So now what?

jackiebluu.com

HOROS

Congrats to all who made it through Gemini season unscathed, that is a feat in and of itself. Thou
the rough. Brushing off those bouts of communication problems and gossip, we run into the ho
relationships and home life. It may be time to break out

CANCER

JUL 23- AUG 22

Strap in because this is the time to get uncomfortably in touch with your inner self. You'll be reveling in the alone time, but don't lose sight of everything around you. You're going to run into an ex - or 5 - but remember, there's never a reason to bring a toxic person back into your life.

JUN 22- JUL 22

It is your time to shine, so this month tell us, who are you? Evaluate your relationships with the people around you, and even with yourself. Do you like what you see? If not, it's time to readjust your boundaries. Though, you're going to have some trouble communicating because of Mercury reversing through your sign. You'll be focused on strengthening relationships with those closest to you and reconnecting with someone you've been neglecting. Try to avoid getting resentful of those who seem higher and higher on their soap boxes this month.

LEO

COPES

gh we had that springtime buzz making us feel alive, like social butterflies, we can also leave behind ouse of Cancer. Ruled by the moon, expect high emotions especially when it comes to caregiving t those photo albums and take a walk down memory lane.

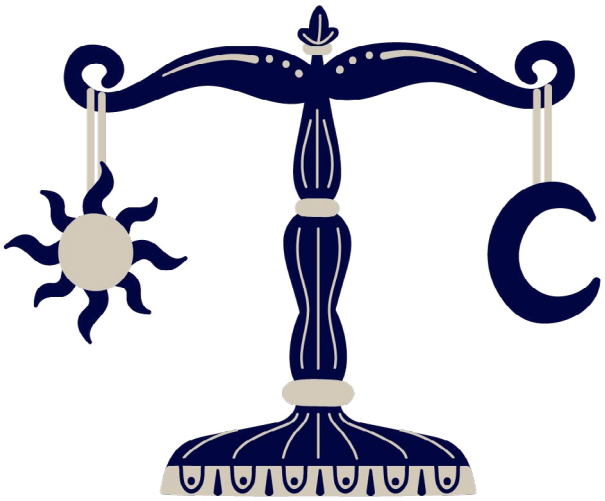
VIRGO

AUG 23- SEPT 22

Nostalgia is the name of the game this season, but what more can you expect from the crab? You Virgo are finding yourself clinging to the past. It's good to love where we've come from and never forget it, but if you're stuck in those memories, you'll never make more. Focus on staying in the moment as much as possible to give yourself a chance to make new memories.

SEPT 23- OCT 23

Your drive is in 1st gear, and it's time to put up or shut up. First you've got to ask yourself: Why do you want to win? Once you have that answer, evaluate if it's good enough, and run straight forward. If it isn't, look for a better one.

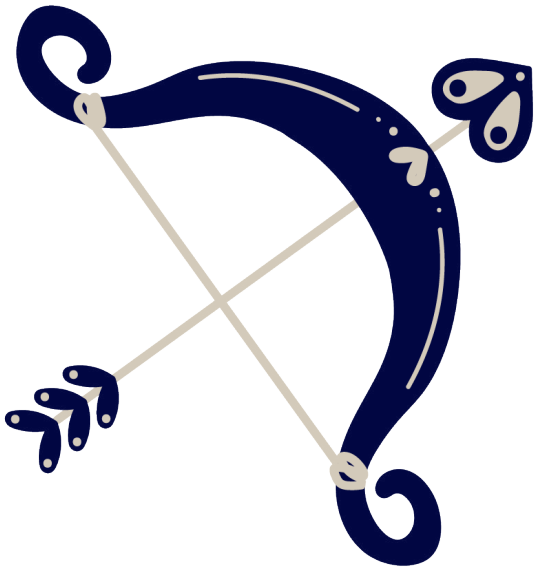


LIBRA

HOROS

OCT 24- NOV 21

Quarantine has you restless, but that doesn't mean you can't travel. Take a trip to your backyard, or the abandoned lot down the street, and explore the things you haven't taken the time for before. You're trying to find some meaning in this moment. Reading and writing will help you sort through these challenges to find the light.



SAGITTARIUS

SCORPIO

NOV 22- DEC 21

Get ready to have your plan go up in flames. That's okay though. With a solid back up plan and all the faith you had in Santa at 4, you'll pull through. This month you must decide to either hold your partner as close as 6 feet apart will let you, or find a new one.

COPES

DEC 22- JAN 19

It's time to learn the difference between setting boundaries and being defensive. Sit down with your bestie and get into those intimate details, you'll feel better to have someone you love in your heart. With the Sun square in your 7th house of partnership, it's time.

CAPRICORN

AQUARIUS

JAN 20- FEB 18

It is time to get your face mask ready and do some self care! You've been lacking lately, and with Mercury coming in to wreak havoc on your sixth house it's time to control your need to take on all these new projects. Focus on what's important.

HOROS

PISCES

MAR 21- APR 19

This month you're stuck in the past, but you're also loving it. Strengthen those family bonds, but remember: just because it's a quarantine doesn't mean you can skip self care. You'll be emotionally drained if you spend all your time thinking about the past and what ifs.

FEB 19- MAR 20

Money making is occupying a lot of real estate in your head lately, and now moving into Cancer, you're feeling the pressure. Make sure to keep your emotions as grounded as possible and don't run away with them. Luckily, it looks like a summer fling or more is in store for you. Remember not to take back your ex, but have fun and express yourself.

ARIES

COPES

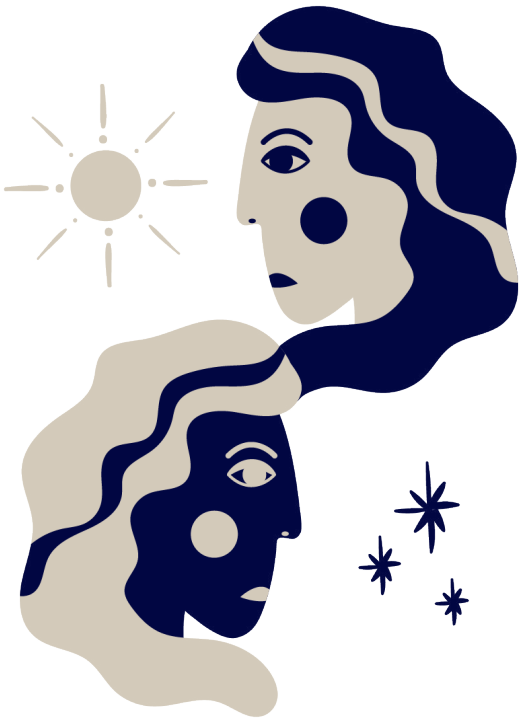
TAURUS

APR 20- MAY 20

Taurus, you're always logical and grounded, but this month you're actually learning to listen. Take the leap to apologize to someone you've been avoiding, but remember to check before you send. Delete all the things clogging up your timeline. If it doesn't inspire you, it has to go.

MAY 21- JUN 21

Eclipse season has you balancing your checkbook. Look at your expenses with a hard eye, and get rid of those excess ones. If you haven't logged on in months maybe it's time to cancel the subscription. Use that extra money to do something fun and meaningful with the people close to you. Don't forget to socially distance though!



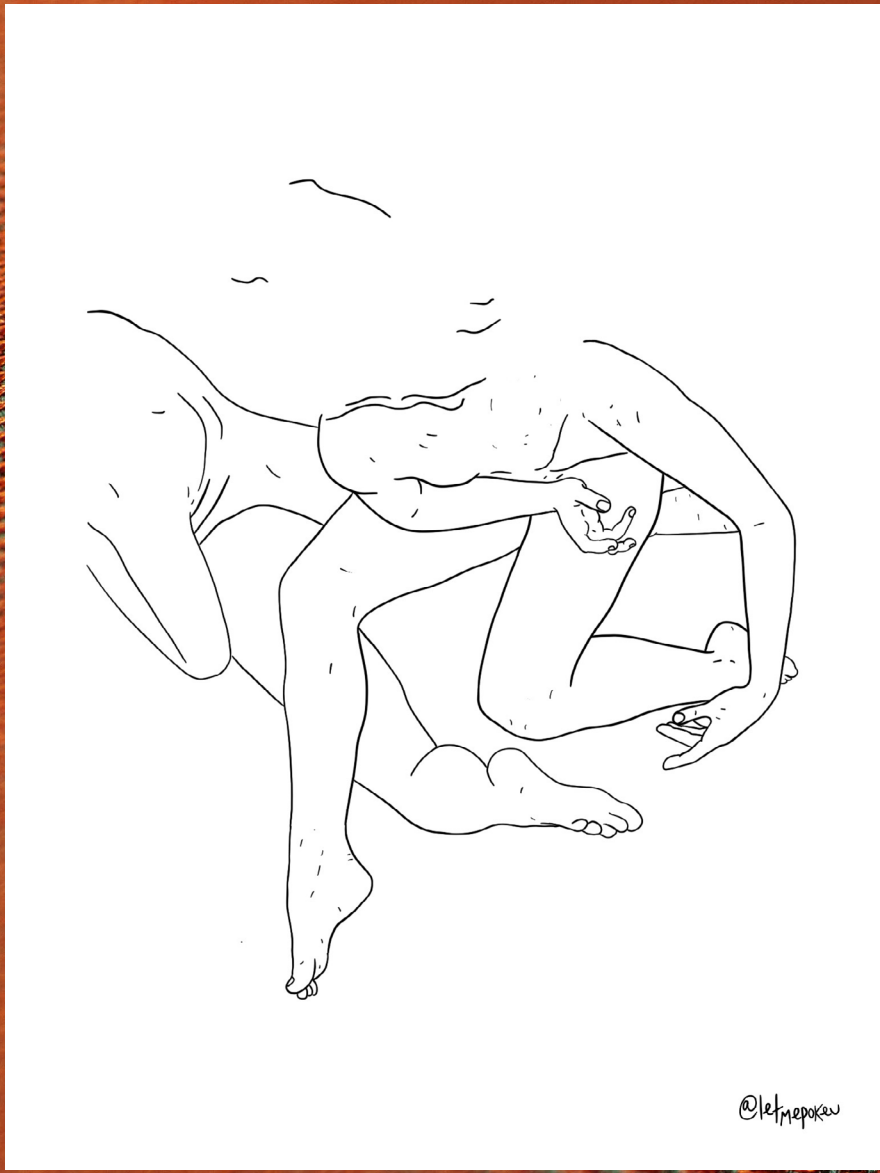
GEMINI

www.ingloriouse

"Have you ever woken up in the middle of the night, beaded with sweat, a little stunned with a
lit between your legs? I never remember how these dreams begin, but I remember how they
simple actions like walking or talking to someone to passionate erotic scenarios, my body sl
and makes me explode, having the sweetest orgasms, waking me up afterwards to continue to fee
of that pleasure? Has this ever happened to you? Those are my favorite dreams."

roticart.co.uk

sweet fire still
y evolve, from
owly lights up
l the residuals



Lost in Lust is an illustration by NYC based artist: Leeza Lakhter. This piece represents a blurred fantasy about intimacy, touching, and faceless memories.

Candy Porcelain.

20 years old, Ángel is a shy, kind and sweet boy that becomes empowered at night by his alter ego: Candy Porcelain. Since he was 16, he started to be attracted by this nightlife-style when he first saw Martina Rey, a local Tenerife diva, onstage. Her female empowerment inspired him, and then, Rupaul's crew did the rest - especially the punk attitude of Adore Delano. She adopted the name Candy in loving memory of her aunt Cande, who passed away because of cancer; it belonged to the first wig she used. Her act is young, alternative, dark and fishy. Like many new drag queens, her performance is more herself rather than being an impersonator of a singer. However, she admits her best lip syncs include the Spanish singer, Alaska, and the international Pink, Becky G and Rihanna. This series follows her on her night routine, from her make-up, padding - all the transformation - to her strong presence around the pub.

Ángel has studied Beautician and Hairdressing, and he is continuing his education with Art A Levels. He is not much interested in the disco life: flirting, drinking or drugs, but he really loves the attention he gets as Candy. He confesses that as his drag, he gets fascination and curiosity by many straight men. During the shooting, I got the impression that they were two different people, but I can tell that both showed emotional intelligence, politeness and humbleness.

THE BEATLES
SGT PEPPERS
LONELY HEARTS
CLUB BAND
LOVE
Jueves, Viernes, Sábados y Domingos
100 PIPERS

His relations with clients, other drags and the owners of the pub could not be nicer. She is also a DIY Queen: she loves doing her own make up, padding and relies on herself for almost everything.

At the end of the night, after the show, I accompany Candy to the backstage again and she reverted to Ángel, the shy guy. He waved a timid goodbye to the audience. It was a visually intense experience. I have always found inspiration in the drag scene.

Thanks Ángel, and particularly, **Candy Porcelain**, for their candidness.

CANDY PORCELAIN I SEIGAR I TENERIFE, SPAIN I **@JSEIGAR** **@IAMCANDYPORCELAIN**

SEIGAR.WORDPRESS.COM

I want to

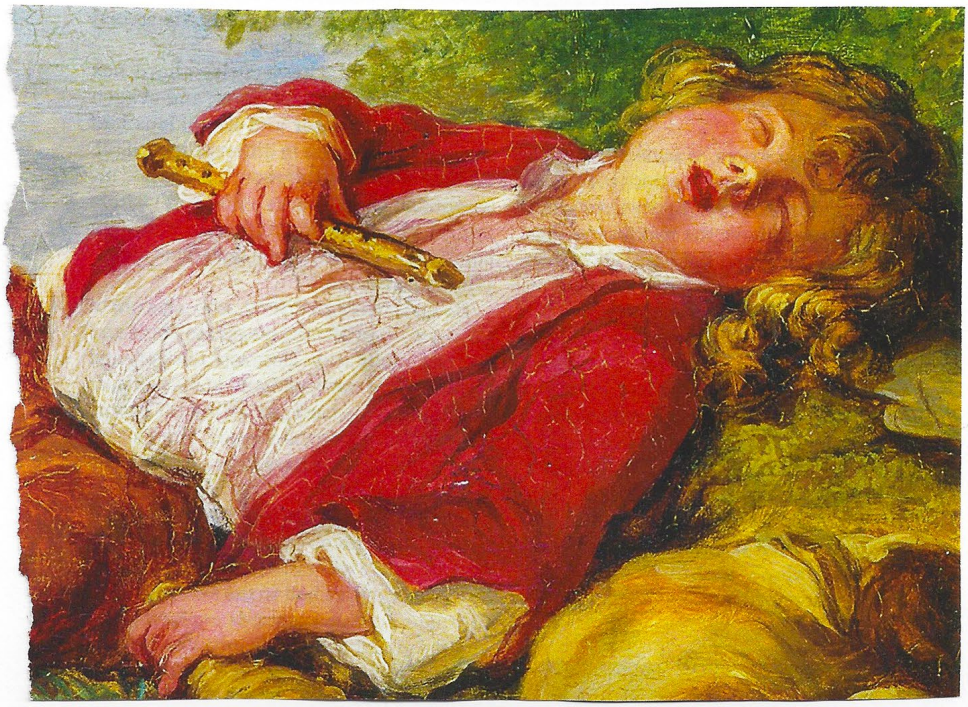
Wake to see your eyes
Hear your voice as the sun rises
Heart beating to your hum
Never losing sight of the gift you gave to me

Happiness.

Toes touch
Deep breaths
Vulnerability.

No sense of time
I count the beats
My heart will always be yours.

Take a look
No one mistook
The care I have for you.
I,
dream of you.



WAKE UP

AVAILABLE

@BABYGOTBECS

how impossible it is

I hide behind my eyes

All the light gone from within

My spark is starting to fade

The emotions I hide by saying "I'm fine" and force a smile and hope you don't notice that it doesn't reach my eyes.

I am silently begging you to keep asking until I can force myself to say "I am not okay. I am not fine. That in fact, I am far from it."

I wish you could look at my eyes and see that they don't light up anymore.

How impossible it is to get that spark back.

And how I try to make myself happy but it never lasts.

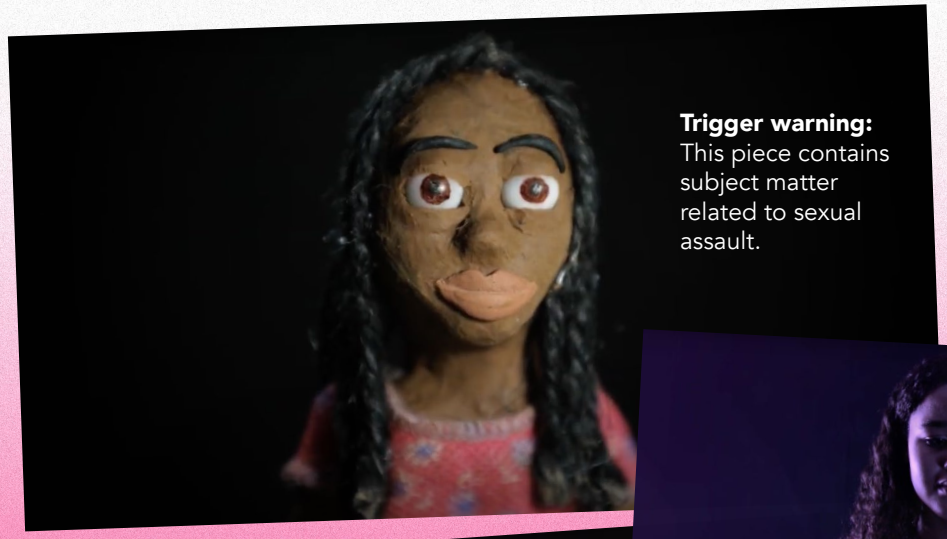
And how impossible it is not to shatter into a million pieces.

If I show that I am broken,

All that's left of my "worth"

Would vanish.

Bloom



Trigger warning: This piece contains subject matter related to sexual assault.

My name is Ella Fields, and I am a teen filmmaker. I love to make shorts on social justice topics such as LBGTQ+ exposure, gender stereotypes, gun control, etc., and have been traveling around the world attending festivals to celebrate my work.

I just released a claymation short called "Bloom" on the topic of sexual assault, which is a really important and sensitive topic to me. The making of "Bloom" has been the most insane process with many stories and crazy serendipitous experiences - I have a lot to share about it! All I want is for people to feel that someone understands them and that they are not alone in any situations, and it makes me really grateful that people have been able to resonate so much with my film. I hope to spread this conversation as wide as possible.

ABYSS

I am fading into purgatory—
Nowhere land
A dead end
Existing only in a fog
A mist of grey
A fluff of clouds.

I've misplaced my spirit
And can't seem to locate my soul
Iridescent sweat
Fluorescent blood
Floating in the abyss
Levitating in blank space.

I'm not free.
I'm not me.
I'm not being.

Sleepy haze over the pasture,

Grey and heavy with damp

Droplets left on blades

Of untouched grasses

And through the fog

I can see trees looming,

Standing sentinel

Over my weary mind.

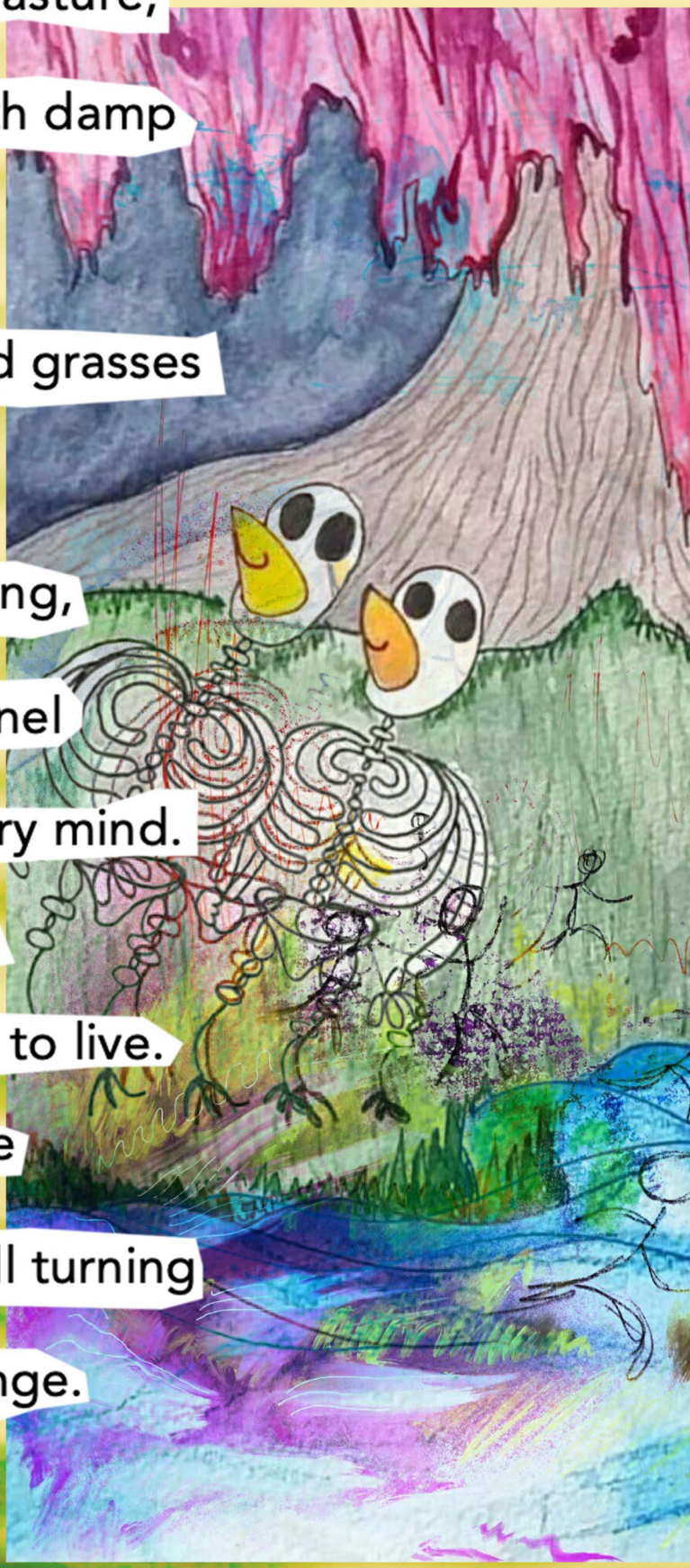
A body filled with grief

Is no place to live.

The spring dew tells me

The wheel is still turning

And it is time for change.



Konica Recorder Half Frame Camera - Film: Ilford HP5 400 (Black and White)

"When you start living life for yourself"

That's the title I had scrawled across the page before all this craziness ensued

But even with seemingly more time on my hands

I can't bring myself to look beyond the next day

It's hard to think, to dream, to believe

When you don't know what tomorrow will bring

You think that things are going to be okay

When in reality, your mind is spinning in a thousand different directions

It's a blessing to even get a good night's sleep

When all your thoughts are hindering your ability to make decisions

I'm scared of how we'll emerge on the other side of this

Of how the world will look

Of the people that we'll become

Dreaming may serve as a form of escapism

Yet I'm not quite sure what I'm running from

Or what I'm running towards

I.

Hands on your chest.

Lips on your face.

Brow to your cheek.

In the twilight,

We are born.

Swirls of mist dance

With rays of light.

We are wonder workers.

Dreams are crafted in

The pits of our hearts

And refined in the forge

Of our minds.

Brilliant is the starlight,

A bridge from the mundane

To the metaphysical.

We are spiritual beings.

The World of Dreams is our

Mount Olympus.

We are the fashioners of

Our fate,

The executioners of our

Destiny.

II.

I have seen your smile before.

In the space between

The waking eye and

The unconscious mind.

That is where I kiss you.

My dream is for a world

Where we can shine in

All of our glory.

A day when I can hold

Your hand in mine.

The fiery words of Society

Cannot reach us here.

This is our place,

Our heaven,

Our dream.

sites.google.com/view/www-adetokunbo-com

THE KISS I MILK AND HONEY I FAYETTEVILLE, AR, USA I **@MINDOFMILKANDHONEY**

III.

You're not real.

My imagination runs wild

With the mares of the night.

Daylight melts away into

Moon, both things we will

Never attain on this earthly plane.

Our dreams are fantasies

Tantalizing us.

In anger, we curse the name of God.

Why give us life if it will forever

Be shadowed?

But maybe,

In the twilight hours between

Reality and the Unreal,

He gave to us the power

To breathe life into our

Worlds.

mindofmilkandhoney.com

Watch *Embarrassment* on Vimeo

'I chose

As I sit here I know I can trust the ocean. The ocean is like me, constantly movin
co-exists. There are no wars or politics. The sea is a constant movement – each w
creature is "right" or "wrong". I've always felt m

Each little wave does something incred

The beach is my safe place. It's where I get most of my thinking done. I come to th
of the salt water air. The sand crunching beneath my feet

I don't care where I am as long as I am able to go to the

Hearing the waves crash and the wind blow is like a whole symphony. I've never lov
It's so raw, so un-afraid to be heard. Some

VIMEO.COM/MIA PADEN

to listen'

g, never still. Always has to have purpose. The ocean is its own world. Everything
wave crashes with purpose. Each little fish has a place. They all have a place and no
ore at home in the ocean than I have in a house.

lible. The tide pulls in and out with ease.

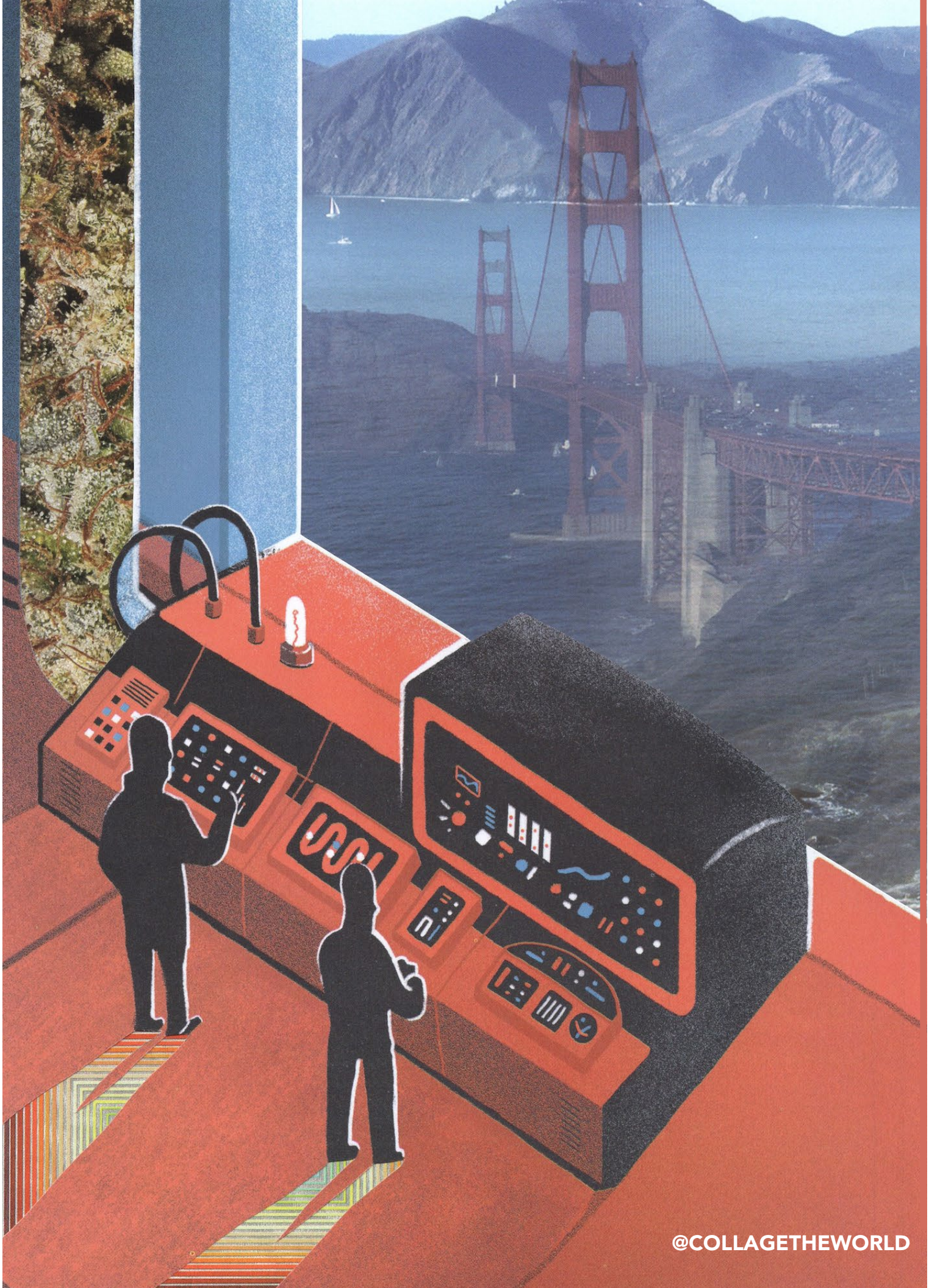
e beach and in an instant I'm calm. I surround myself with the waves. With the smell
. The shells and rocks I pick up each have a different story.

ocean. And get a small taste of what I would call freedom.

ed anything more. It is without a doubt the most beautiful music I have ever heard.
e people ignore it, while I choose to listen.

ALEXANDRA MOODY

UNTITLED



SITTING ON THE DOCK OF THE BAY | CURTIS BERGESEN (COLLAGE THE WORLD) | DENVER, CO

JOHNNY M I NEW YORK, USA I @JOHNNYMPHOTOS

DREAMS PLAYLIST

INCEPTION TECHNIQUE

CAMERA: KONICA RECORDER HALF FRAME CAMERA - FILM: FUJIFILM 400 (DOUBLE EXPOSURE COLOR)

HE'S 31 - GEOWULF
NEW SLANG - THE SHINS
CALIFORNIA - FLORA CASH
INCOMPLETE - SARA SCHIRALLI
22 (OVER S∞∞N) - BON IVER
MAGIC ISLAND - TOMORROW X TOGETHER
NAP OF A STAR - TOMORROW X TOGETHER
LULLABY FOR A CAT - EPIK HIGH
BUTTERFLY (PROLOGUE MIX) - BTS
21 GUNS - GREEN DAY
THE LIGHT BEHIND YOUR EYES - MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE
4 O'CLOCK - BTS (R&V)
THE WORLD IS UGLY - MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE
ANIMAL TRACKS - MOUNTAIN MAN
KUSANAGI - ODESZA
CAVERNS - HUNDRED WATERS
ELEGY - TYCHO
RED PRAIRIE DAWN - CAHALEN MORRISON AND ELI WEST
BUTTER AND EGGS - JULIAN LATE & CHRIS ELDRIDGE
SUGAR MAPLE - NOAM PIKELNY
JERSEY - JONAS BROTHERS
SIMPLY THE BEST - NOAH REID
MA BELLE EVANGELINE - JIM CUMMINGS, TERENCE BLENCHARD
DISNEY GIRLS - ART GARFUNKEL
DREAMS - FLEETWOOD MAC
VACATION - FLORIST
HEADACHE - GROUPER
HEAVY WATER/I'D RATHER BE SLEEPING - GROUPER
SWANS (LIFE AFTER DEATH) - ISLANDS
SPACE SONG - BEACH HOUSE
MYTH - BEACH HOUSE
FROM THE SUN - UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA
THOSE DAYS - MICHAEL CERA
THE PAST TENSE - INFINITE BISOUS
LITTLE HANDS - ALEXANDER 'SKIP' SPENCE
GREY/AFRO - ALEXANDER 'SKIP' SPENCE
PINK & BLUE - TYCHO, SAINT SINNER
'ROUND MIDNIGHT - THELONIOUS MONK
AQUARIUS - CAL TJADER
MONTARA - WARREN WOLF
LITTLE STAR - MADONNA
STRANGER IN A DREAM - RENAISSANCE WOMAN
THESE DAYS - NICO
CHERRY WINE - LIVE - HOZIER
THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD - AURORA
NOT GOING ANYWHERE - KEREN ANN
DREAM - PRISCILLA AHN
HAPPENING - OLIVIA BROADFIELD
BLUE VELVET - LANA DEL REY
DREAMLAND - GLASS ANIMALS
TWIST - DIZZY

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY

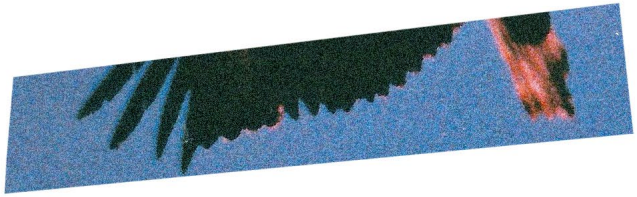
CODY CUPMAN
LIKES TO MAKE
SHADOW MUPPETS
DURING SLEEP
OVERS

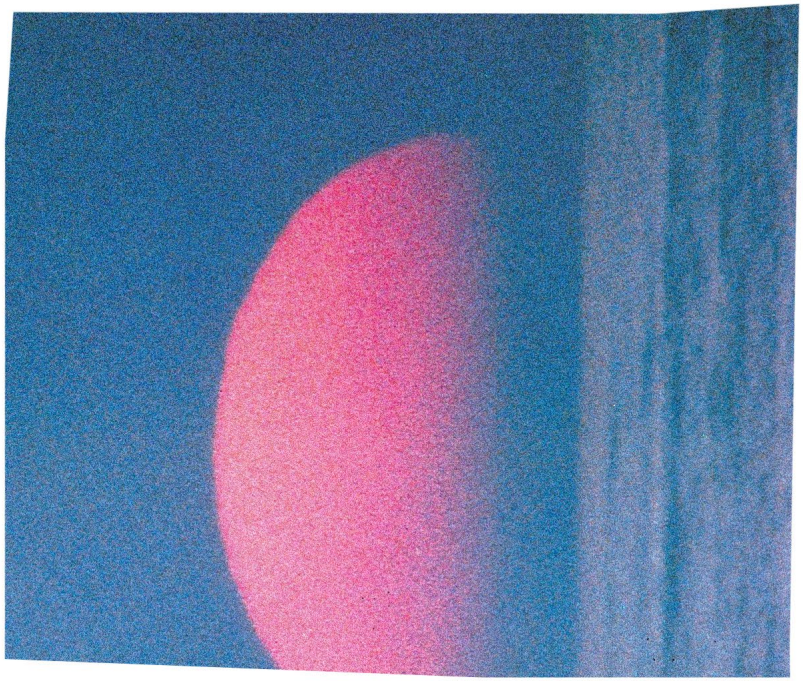
KNIGHT MARE I CODY CUPMAN I TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA I **@CODYCUPMAN**

Nightmares

When I close my eyes
I picture a boat
It's as white as the clouds
That reflect atop the water
Gliding to and fro
As it sends its passengers
To the other side
Like clockwork
We stand upon the dock
Hand in hand
Awaiting a new adventure
That slips away from my fingertips
Before it can arrive
You say you will look for me
Once the storm settles
Though I never seem to board with you
When it clears
It's too late
You're nowhere in sight and
I'm everywhere
You are not
With me but
You're supposed to be

~ Naulia





A CANDID CONVERSATIO WITH BRETT CAMERO

BY MALLORY THOMPSON

An artist who creates a mosaic of genres, textures, and stories, **Brett Cameron** has attained well over one million overall streams and tens of thousands of fans through his alt-pop releases and high-energy shows. Through appearances in The Huffington Post, wave of good noise, iHeart Radio, PopDust, and 2DOPEBOYZ/Complex Music, opening festivals and concerts for artists such as Kodaline, Jon Bellion, The Black Keys, Teddy Geiger (i.e., Shawn Mendes), Jamie N Commons, Hall & Oates, Drake Bell, The Rocket Summer, and Never Shout Never, and being part of a featured Firefly Music Festival showcase, **Brett Cameron** has proved his wide-ranging abilities both as a songwriter/producer and as an electric performer.

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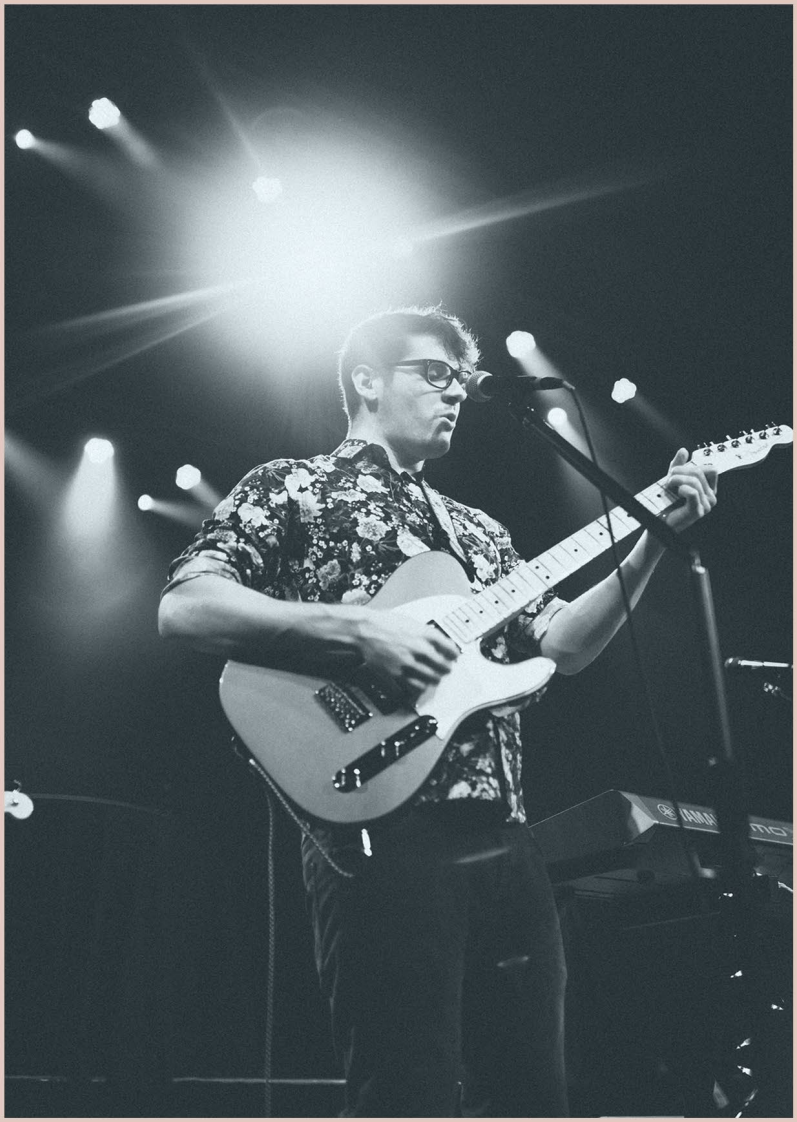
Back in late January, I had the opportunity to chat with Brett Cameron about his life, his music and his dreams. Brett is 25 years old and currently resides in Connecticut, USA. Throughout our 55-minute chat, we shared interests, discussed politics and shared our mutual love of all things music. Through talking to him, it's easy to see his passion and the amount of time and love he puts into every song. You can tell that he cares about everything he puts out and how thought-out his songs and messages are. My goal of this interview was to explore Brett's psyche within the theme of Dreams and dive into what makes Brett who he is.



So how did you get into music?

So - in terms of family - my dad can't sing but back when people downloaded music, he downloaded thousands of songs to his library. My grandfather (my mom's dad) has a good voice and my mom has a beautiful voice and also plays piano and guitar.

When I was in 5th grade, I started realizing that I could carry a tune. Later in school, I started learning instruments (specifically guitar & piano) and I started writing music while I was learning those instruments. Around this time, I also started learning about musicians such as Coldplay, Sheryl Crow, Michelle Branch and The Fray and realized that I had an affinity for piano-driven pop-rock.

I heard this music in late elementary and didn't realize that music could make me feel this way. This music had a feeling of melancholy but also felt inspiring at the same time. This was a turning point for me. Once I realized I had some sort of musical ability, and once I heard and felt music that I'd never really felt before, this inspired me to want to create my own songs and make others feel the way that I felt when I listened to these songs.

How would you describe your sound in 3 words?

I hope it would be Uplifting, Hopeful and Unifying.

What's the most important thing about making music?

I feel that there's a sense of community that you can feel around music where multiple people listening can share the same or similar emotions and experiences. Music honours that we may have different experiences and backgrounds, but our emotions or what goes on in our minds and dreams are interconnected and similar.

For me, it's an awesome outlet to make sense of the world around me and the world in my head. When I share music, it can allow people who listen to it to feel and understand that the human condition is a shared thing.

When you're not doing music, what are you doing career-wise?

I'm a teacher, I teach Social Studies to Highschool Students

When Brett said he was a teacher, this prompted another question of mine out of sheer curiosity. I followed up by asking, "does it feel weird to be young and teaching high school?" (at the age of 25, Brett is a fairly young teacher)

Yes, it does!

So, are you fulltime? Or do you substitute, and are they all 16-18-year olds?

I'm full time and yes, they are - hence the coffee to keep me going! (Brett laughs while holding up his iced coffee)

It's always a juggling act between "I'm going to book some venues for a tour, vs. I'm going to create a lesson on something like The Korean War"

At this point, I was very interested in discovering more of Brett's background, so the next few questions prompted a deeper discussion into his background and how he manages to keep up teaching and having a music career.

What made you choose social studies?

I'm a big fan of politics and current events, and I come from a very politically engaged family. In the

Throughout the Interview, Brett and I ended up discussing Canadian politics - which I didn't expect for a music-centred interview. It was interesting to have the opportunity to pick both his musical brain and his political brain. Throughout our conversation, I started to structure the interview around how he balances music with his full-time teaching job. As a teacher, Brett specifically plans his tours and music-related stuff in the summer, as this is when he has the most time.

How do you balance your time? How do you find time for music with all the school work?

I think it comes to forward planning and being proactive. I'll look at my schedule to see what's coming up in the next few months when it comes to navigating music. I think it's also a matter of finding the right bandmates - maybe ones who don't need extensive practicing and are self-sufficient enough to know what they need to know and come prepared with the little time everyone has. (sound structure, notes)

Playing selectively is also important, are you playing shows that can get you a lot of fans? Are you playing selectively in markets where if you play, you'll galvanize that audience? I play shows with the mindset of seeing if I can build up a following in local markets, expanding audiences on socials and trying to market myself to be potentially seen by a label.

In terms of finding time to make records, it comes down to planning . I have a home studio, and for me, I found that not forcing the songs works best. When the timing is right - and it's been a little while since the last release - you start to pick up on the little things. Maybe its recording voice memos, recording ideas, taking those ideas and then building up the production in the comfort of your own space.

My style is organic; it builds on itself. I think about how I can create cool ideas and then I'll record them on my voice notes. If I have time when the idea comes, I'll take it and expand and play with what I've recorded on the spot. If I don't have time, I'll spend some time thinking. It

goes from the conception of the idea, to record the idea, to production. Right now, I have the freedom as an artist.

So, to summarize, I balance by planning and building something up over time, and by not overplaying shows, I have the time to make some good music.

How do you use Social Media as a platform to increase your fanbase and your reach and how has it worked for you?

Social Media has been really useful - it is good for promoting the shows. It's an amazing tool you can use to expand your reach so that people all over the world can hear your music. On the local level, it helps in promoting your shows to family, to friends, to fans or to local people who may be interested in coming to see your performance. It assists with building fans at the local as well as international level.

Social Media is how people are connecting these days and shows are so vital and important, and you do a lot of what you do as an artist to eventually play those big shows and connect with lots of people. I think it's cool to connect to fans on a personal level.

Most of the people who hear my music hear it through social media. There are so many artists who have found traction through streaming services (Spotify playlists, features), gaining support through TikTok and even YouTube. You can't ignore the power of the reach of these platforms relative to the power of the reach of playing a show in your hometown circuit. These platforms are viral.

After discussing Social Media, I wanted to ask Brett about how he deals with Social Media vs. Teaching as some teachers are frowned upon for using social media.

I've seen schools look down upon teachers or get mad at teachers for having social media. How do you get around this, have your students found your music?

The answer is yes to that question (Have students found your music?). I've never really posted anything other than, 'this is what I do'. It comes down to the image I want to show in regards to my music.

My social media is inclusive, tolerant and open to anybody who might be interested in the music. None of my music is something that I wouldn't be able to stand behind. My art is for someone who wants to dive into something of substance

After focusing on teaching a little bit, I wanted to re-route the questions to explore more of Brett's psyche and learn about his sources of inspiration.

How and where do you find inspiration?

The simple answer is everywhere; it's a combination of external and internal. A song could be about your own internal pondering or even thoughts about something you experienced externally or how you feel about what you're seeing in the news externally. It's usually some sort of combination of experience and your laminations on that experience.

I can be existential, so sometimes I'll think, "why are we here, what is our purpose?" When I was younger, I wrote a lot of songs about that.
A lot of what you write about is life, and what I mean by that is it is an amalgamation of relationships - of experiences. Sometimes a song may be about a specific person or experience or emotion, but many times it is a collection of all of that.

I do tend to write a little more about the larger themes and then the inspiration within the lyrics is a collection of those experiences that tie back to those themes.

In terms of sounds, textures and productions, it's usually anything I'm listening to. I think Spotify has been incredible in terms of access. I could be listening to a Taylor Swift song, and then switch to a 1975 song, and then to Beyoncé or even The Beatles. I find that I can pick up interesting sounds and styles through that.

Are there any specific artists/creatives that have influenced your music/ sound?

Just to name a few, my formative influences are Coldplay, OneRepublic, Sheryl Crow, The Script.

I also really like John Mayer. Recently, Oh Wonder has been a big thing on my rotation. I also like Shawn Mendes - he's awesome. From a pop standpoint, Taylor Swift has always been a real standard for making pop songs with a substance that can reach everyone.

The thread between these artists is their ability to create anthems with a substance that can be communicated on a personal and intimate level.

My favourite artist is Coldplay, and I think they do a nice job of creating music that has substance but is also accessible. I've seen them live and when you hear them sing the Scientist, for example, or something that's widely known, there's a real palpable energy to the simultaneous dichotomy of larger than life Big O singalongs, meshed with a real emotionality of an audience singing along.

You feel it on a subconscious level that the song means something different to everybody and has a similar impact. There is that connective tissue in the moment while celebrating the diversity of what that song means to everyone and how it's different for everyone.

Who is your dream collaboration?

Chris Martin and Ryan Tedder. Let's also throw Beyoncé out there, because why not if we're going along the concept of dreams.

Have you ever had a crazy dream about your career / your music that you'd be willing to share?

I've had a few dreams where I've been the opener for Coldplay. Some of those dreams are good.

Is there meaning to your dreams?

I think it depends on the person, what they think of dreams, or what they take out of them. I think dreams can absolutely be meaningful. For me, it generally is a collection of things rustling through my mind and then my brain trying to organize it or be weird about it. Sometimes they feel more meaningful than others.

Are you living your dreams?

In some ways, yes. There are three parts to this answer:

In one part, Absolutely. I am getting to play shows in NYC (Best city in the world) and this is incredible. I've gotten to open for some of my favourite artists and play for thousands of people. I've also gotten to create records and release them to people all around the world, and those are dreams for sure.

In another part, I'm still striving, I want to be able to do national touring and meet and connect with more people.

In the third part, my vision of my dream is constantly evolving and becoming more concrete. My dreams have evolved. When I was younger, I had a dream to play MSG. But I realized that I want to define goals where they have steps to achieve - there are a lot of external factors out of your control for a goal like that. Playing MSG might be a goal but it's not something I'll hold myself accountable for making come true.

I'm doing what I want to do which is make records, tour and connect with people. I would love to do it on a bigger, wider and more sustainable scale. Some dreams maybe aren't realized yet.

I also think that I want to explore myself as an artist more thematically - sonically.

After diving into the theme of Dreams a little bit, I wanted to dive into some questions about the album that Brett released in 2019, called 'It Comes in Waves & When It's Here I'll Know'.

What is the significance of the album's name?

It's about the ups and downs in life as a mid-20-year-old, but it goes for everybody.

It seems that the lows come with the highs - it's a take on the human condition. It is reassuring to know that you go through phases/waves or whatever you want to call them. This helps you appreciate the high more and appreciate the lows for what they are.

It's a cyclical journey that we're all on as human beings. Specifically, for 'When it's here I'll know', I think that when we feel peace, we know it and we're always going through our own sort of trials to find out who we are, what we're going through, where we want to go and where we've been. I think it's something that you strive to better understand, reflect and evolve from.

What's the most meaningful song to you on this album?

'It Comes in Waves & Then It's Gone', This captures the essence of the album the best, thematically. Either that or 'Wings on a Stranger'. I think both of them capture the hope in the record, which I like.

How has your music changed since you first started?

I'll also say the way it hasn't: I'm still inherently drawn to the piano when I write, and I still get drawn to mellow dramatic pop ballads. That's my bread and butter. I think it's gotten a little more anthemic and the lyrics have gotten more introspective and personal, and I think I've expanded my palette of sound. I've tried to genre mesh as much as I can, and I think that helps challenge myself as an artist - not only lyrically and thematically but also sonically.

What music instruments do you play?

Piano, guitar and I can also play a little ukulele. Everything else is honestly through production. I can create synths - synthetic drums. I can

create synths - synthetic drums. I can do anything on a keyboard. If the voice is an instrument, I can also sing.

Would you ever do a song on the Ukulele?

I'd love to! My friend Tyler has one, so I may have to steal it soon.

Do you have any advice for younger musicians trying to break into the scene?

Get your own home studio set up and start experimenting with production. Songwriting and production go hand in hand. Create your own work, but don't be ashamed to emulate people until you begin to cultivate your sound and perspective - this will shine through the more you become acquainted with the process of writing.

Define why you're doing it and what you want to represent with what you're doing. If you can define those two aspects of your career, the easier time you'll have to carve your path and fin[d] your way through the steps to get further in that path.

THE MORE OWNERSHIP YOU HAVE OVER THE PROCESS, THE EASIER IT IS TO CARVE YOUR OWN PATH. If you can produce and record on your own, the more ownership you have, THE MORE FREEDOM YOU HAVE TO EXPLORE and CARVE OUT THAT PATH FOR YOURSELF.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

Hopefully having a few more albums under my belt / few more albums out there. I'd like to be producing for other artists and writing for other artists. I'd also like to have been able to tour for artists that have a national following and been able to experience that type of tour. Lastly, have a base of people that you can develop relationships with, where the community around the music has meaning.

If someone reading today was interested in your music, what is the first song they should listen to?

Roses in the Backseat, It Comes in Waves & Then It's Gone and Wings on a Stranger. Thematically, this covers a lot of what I'm about

What can we expect from you for the rest of 2020?

Tour, at least one new record, another EP from my collaborative project with my friend Tyler John from the band Between Giants - we have a project called Lost Alive and I would love another EP with him. More music, more touring, more shows, more content

Anything else you'd like to add?

For anyone who takes a listen, thanks so much. I would love to keep in touch.

Hear more from

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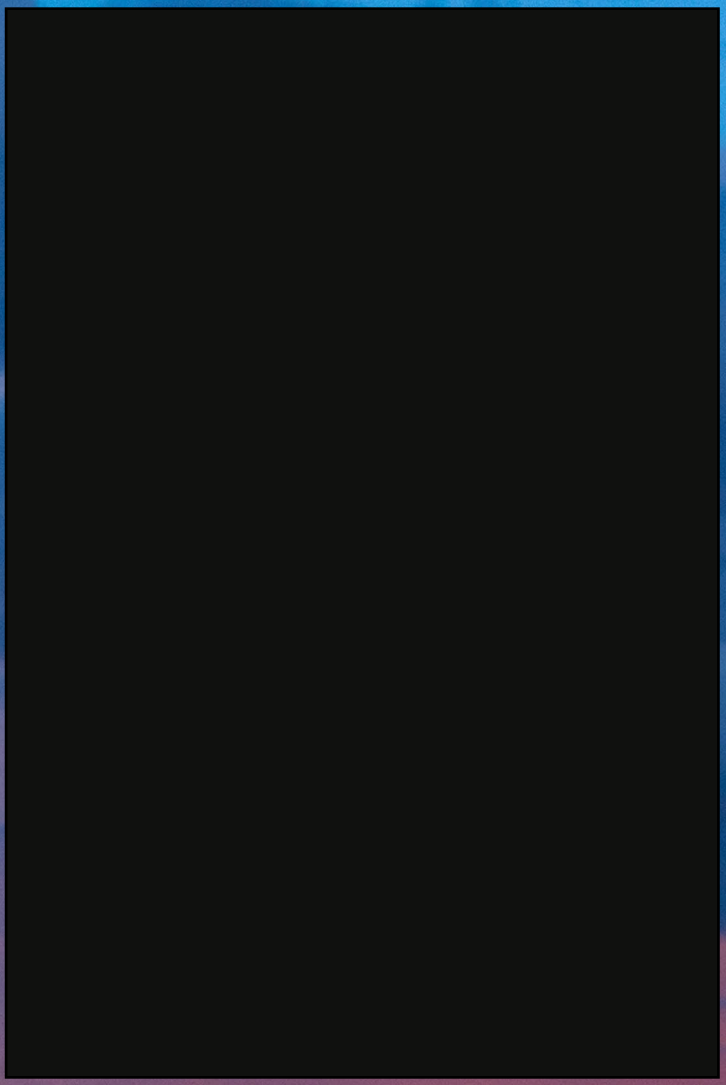
Brett



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ad more from Mallory at supmallory.wordpress.com

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BLUE DREAM I RESPLENDENCE I TORONTO, CANADA I **@RESPLENDENCEART**

the place you used to be stood still
in a silence I wasn't accustomed to
or ready for

in this dream where people kept vanishing
and as they went so did their bedroom door

as if each earthly trace were corrupted
as if each trait of the people were water

once it flowed and flowed and flowed
but now stagnance had taken its hold

I walk down the street remembering you,
reciting the memories of how we would be

beside me a ghost of your presence listened,
reminiscent of the old you too

fireworks lit up the sky
and the passersby were excited

I was happy for their happiness
yet unsettled by the unknowing insensitivity

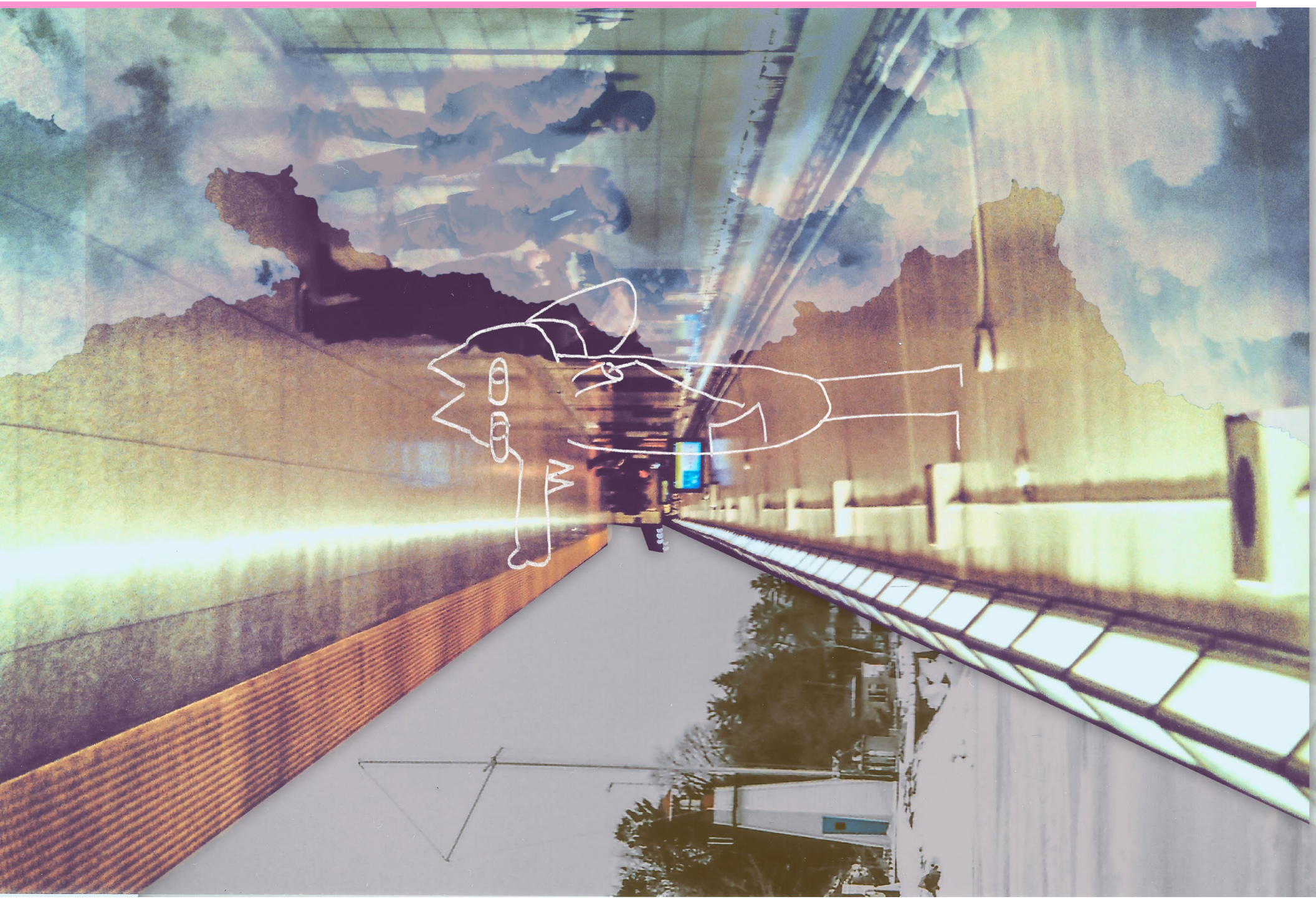
to the remainder of you I sang a song
a quiet one about the sea
& how it feels to be lost or in love

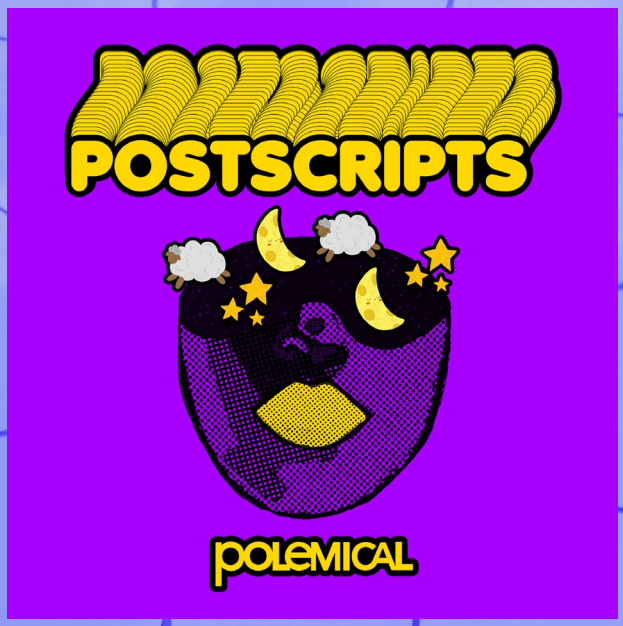
maybe the you from above
heard it too

NIGHTMARE

When I was a child
I'd awake from bad dreams
of weeping angels or the red eyes
and yellow teeth of monsters
lurking under my bed, in my closet.
I'd lay there blissfully asleep
then restless then suddenly awake,
so I'd scurry to my parents room
scamper over their half-sleeping bodies
and cocoon myself beneath blankets,
I'd awake once more in my own bed
carried from cover to cover
memories of bad dreams no more.

Now, as an adult
in that strange time between being man and child
I'm awake. Bad dreams of adult things
the boring bills, power cuts,
politics and still, the monsters stay
but they don't have red eyes
their mouths filled with pillow white teeth
they slink up and down my street,
they look so normal from out my window
I have nowhere to go, in the house alone,
a dozen duvets couldn't cocoon this fear,
I'm once more in my own bed
dragged through night into day
hoping to wake up from this nightmare.





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THANK YOU ALL!

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